THE GATEWAY

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SAM BROOKS

GET IN AND GET OUT Players race to the line to grab their artillery during Anti-Freeze's dodgeball tournament in the Lister Centre on Wednesday night. The teams will build snowmen in Quad today at 11 a.m.

Winter semester kicks off with SU's 11th annual competition

JONATHAN TAVES
Deputy News Editor

The Vancouver Olympics may not be until February, but it might do some athletes well to see how they measure up in the second-most competitive winter athletic event: the Students' Union's annual Anti-Freeze.

The event, in its 11th year, is a week-long competition between teams of University of Alberta students who participate in feats of endurance and creativity.

"Anti-Freeze is our 'welcome back' in the winter term," explained Alena Manera, Associate Vice President (Student Life) and coordinator of the event. "It's just a week of little events, anything from dodgeball to snowman-building. [Teams] rack up points and then at the end of the week we give away sweet prizes."

The $15,000 budget of the event is raised through external sponsors and not from SU fees. Sponsors also provide some of the prizes.

Over 130 participants will compete for the top spots, possibly earning a ski trip to Sunshine Village in Banff, or box seats to an Oilers game in the Molson suite.

Beating out other teams during the events isn't the only way to win, though, as Manera explained why a spirit award is also up for grabs.

"We want to give back to the people who don't place because they have too much fun," she said. "They really deserve something because they're really embodying what Anti-Freeze is about. Anti-Freeze is about connecting to the campus community, meeting other people, and getting connected to the Students' Union."

Teams are split into two divisions depending on how much of a time commitment they want to make, participating in events all day long (Avalanche), or just in the evenings (Iceberg).

"The Iceberg division was added later on because people didn't want to miss classes anymore. People in university are getting more and more studious," Manera laughed.

A change has been made this year to reduce team sizes from 10 to five members. Manera credits this, and a better advertising campaign, for broader interest.

"This year we have all new teams, from Business, from Medicine, from all over. It's a good representation of the whole campus community [...] which is probably the most exciting part about it," she said.

Planned activities include a Food Bank fundraiser, creative mixology, and social events in campus bars, but Manera remained tight-lipped about the nature of the "Mystery Events."

"One involves a Yeti," she smiled.

Anti-Freeze began on Tuesday and runs until Saturday, January 9.

Shirvani assumes full deanship of FGSR

SEAN STEELS
Senior News Editor

When Mazi Shirvani, the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research's newly minted dean first found out his application to teach at the University of Alberta had been accepted in 1987, the PhD in advanced mathematics and London native did what any logical researcher would do: look up his new home in a book — in this case, an atlas of the world. He was disappointed to find no mention of Edmonton, instead just a glaring hole north of Calgary.

Luckily, things have changed for both Shirvani and Edmonton. The city is now visible on almost any world atlas, and Shirvani — after moving up the chain of command from assistant professor, to associate dean of the FGSR, and the position of interim dean — has accepted the full position, and assumed the title of vice provost that goes with it.

And since Shirvani began working within the administrative structure of the FGSR, a lot has changed, too. After obtaining his position as interim dean in 2008, he realized what kind of task it would be to reorganize one of the University's most strangely run faculties.

"FGSR is the home faculty for all graduate students. Unlike undergraduate students that belong to official faculties. We deal with their programs, admissions, and all the rest," he explained.

After beginning the process of an administrative organizational overhaul within the faculty in his year-and-a-half stint as interim dean, he now has the task of seeing those changes through from administration, the departments, and classes across campus.

"Right now, we have to see how we can integrate that into the work the departments do, so we don't have students getting caught in the gears between what the department and what graduate studies does. The question is how can we align our operations with departmental operations."

Compounding difficulties is the U of A's current $59-million deficit, a challenge Shirvani acknowledges will test his faculty over the coming year. But he remains adamant that creative thinking will allow the faculty to continue growing despite the encroaching deficit.

"A reality we have to deal with is the incredible growth the faculty is seeing. The undergraduate population here is fairly static, but the graduate program has been growing by 8–10 per cent per year. he explained, noting that it's his goal to simplify the process the application process for such a quickly growing body of students.



PETE YEE

NEXT LEVEL As dean, Shirvani's primary concern is graduate welfare on campus.

"If you think of all the paperwork involved in that increase, it creates massive bureaucracy."

But the strange nature of the faculty's day-to-day operations continue to dog Shirvani and his staff, forcing new solutions to problems other faculties, such as undergraduate faculties haven't had to consider.

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Walking off weight

A co-ed cast of *Gateway* writers examines the challenge of losing the dreaded Freshman 15.

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Walking with a ghost

Sara, of Tegan and Sara, sluffs off a cold long enough to showcase her world of indie-pop, musical delights.

A&E, PAGE 11

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colophon

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Drug database makes pills easier to swallow

ANDREA LUFT
News Writer

For many seniors, medication is a tedious part of daily life. Imagine a senior on a complex list of medication accidentally upending his weekly organizer tray and spilling an assortment of pills on the ground. University of Alberta researchers Lisa Given and Stan Reucker are trying to make it easier to deal with those types of problems with a new online drug database.

"This was part of a University-funded seed project that was started back in 2004, and has grown from there. We are now in the midst of a big three-year project that has expanded beyond just seniors but to all health consumers," explained Given, a Library and Information Studies professor.

This database essentially is a search engine to determine which drug is which, when given pills to identify.

"It is very easy to mistake a very powerful drug with codeine in it with a drug like Aspirin, for example, if they look the same," Given said. "Most search engines work by text, the classic Google search box. When you are thinking about something like medication, it can be really difficult sometimes if you don't how to spell your drug name."

Right now, the tool allows a user to search by shape, colour, or both.

"Within just a few clicks, you can really reduce your search set," Given explained.

After the more general search has been completed, specific details of the drugs may be examined. A zoom feature allows users to look very closely at the numbers and markings on the drugs. These markings are essential in determining the drug type, but are extremely difficult to search with on a traditional search engine.

Reucker and Given have also taken into consideration the feedback from the seniors who have been testing the product. In the upcoming year, they will be beginning more extensive field research, which will provide ideas for shaping the database's design and layout to make it as user-friendly as possible.

Since the seed project started, Given and Reucker have received a government grant to continue it. Public means, such as government grants, or private organization and corporations, could potentially fund a project of this type. The current plan is to continue using government funding for the remainder of the research. This means the information will potentially be free, public domain when the database is complete.

"One of the big problems currently is that a lot of the health resources online are American, so people in Canada are really clamouring for quality Canadian health information," Given said. "The issue now is getting health practitioners on board [outside of the U of A, specifically], but so far they seem very excited about it."

Substantial work still remains on the database, but eventually the goal is to be able to make personal accounts within the database.

"We are currently building in a lot of personal features," Given explained. [We're] looking at 'avatars' so people would be able to essentially create themselves within the database, to remind people to refill prescriptions, and even be able to link in to make appointments with one's physicians. There is still a lot of research to be done there, but it is very exciting."



PETE YEE

RECORDS SHOW Given showcases the new drug database's seed project.

from the archives

"In and out of the war zone"

January 11, 1916

The Royal Mail steamer Scandinavian was about to set sail from Liverpool, and some three hundred passengers, consisting of a hundred or so wounded and incapacitated Canadian soldiers, a few American globe trotters, and about twenty Hesperian survivors, were embarking on what many thought would be a perilous voyage. The emigration officials were on alert. It is a simple matter to reveal one's nationality in Western Canada, but in Liverpool, in war time, the official is intentionally dense with respect to any marks of identification other than a passport. Hamilton, a Scotch agent for some Christian Association, wrangled for ten minutes in his efforts to prove his nationality ...

From the Archives is a regular feature that explores the storied history of the Gateway, *the University of Alberta's student newspaper since 1910. To read the full story and to explore our entire archive since 1910, check out* ***thegatewayonline.ca/archives.***

CORRECTION

The article "Samarasekera, $59-million deficit most talked-about U of A topics during 2009," incorrectly represents the AASUA's position on the furlough day proposal. Staff have agreed to consider up to six furlough days, but discussions are not finalized. The *Gateway* regrets the error.

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by Sean Steels and Pete Yee

As you may be aware, the U of A administration has permanently discarded the need for doctors' notes.

What do you think of the trust being shown to students?



Tim Chen
Art III

It's definitely giving students a lot of leeway in terms of making decisions. It's a big concern with H1N1 nationwide and around the world. But you can't do much about it — just hope the students are legit and taking the steps to quarantine.



Vince Mireau
Education IV

That's wicked, because I'm actually bailing on school for a week in February to go on vacation. Now I can just say I have the flu.



Alyssa Tintinaglia
Psychology I

I think it's horrible. A lot of students will take advantage of it. It doesn't make sense, because if you're sick and incapacitated, you can't go in to get a note anyway.



Nicolette Shaugnessy
Science I

It's a bad idea. Even if you're sick ... I'm sick right now, but I can write an exam. Students will probably abuse it. They need something like Chemistry, where it's at the discretion of the faculty, and you still have to notify your prof after you're better and come in to sign something.



Professor seeks out root of all evil

Canada Research Chair explores rationality behind 'evil' actions in new paper

SIMON YACKULIC
News Staff



PETE YEE
GOOD INTENTIONS Morton believes understanding evil will help us cope with it.

"Evil is, I think, finding ways around barriers that have been built into human beings against doing various kinds of atrocities," University of Alberta philosophy professor Adam Morton suggested. "I think we have impulses to be cooperative and friendly and some impulses to do just really violent things to one another."

While Morton's work covers a diverse array of topics from symbolic logic to cat philosophy, something about the darker side of the human psyche always seems to return to haunt his thoughts. Morton has held his stint as a Canadian Research Chair in epistemology and decision theory for seven years, and has a reduced teaching workload and increased time to ponder life's philosophical mysteries. Among these mysteries, Morton has explored why seemingly decent, normal people can do terrible things.

"We're a bit like dogs: most dogs are perfectly friendly, but you do the wrong thing and suddenly they go into attack mode," Morton joked.

What interests Morton is a theoretical "attack button" that switches a decent human being into a person prepared to commit normally irrational acts. For his Canadian Research Chair position, he's generally exploring rationality and cognitive limitations, and he explained that this includes how human rationality itself needs to be understood as imperfect.

In his paper *Empathy for the Devil*, Morton looks at two sides of the coin of human imperfection — the rationality required to commit evil acts, and the problem decent people have in imagining or having empathy for such acts. According to Morton, fascination with evil may have to do with the fact that it's difficult for most rational people to truly comprehend heinous acts.

"I think most of us have a little shudder not only doing atrocious things, but imaging them," Morton elaborates. "We're squeamish. We're also attracted to violence in film and literature, so we're kind of fascinated and repelled at the same time."

In his book — aptly titled *On Evil* — Morton explained how he argued that there is a big difference between different ways of being bad, from uncooperative behaviour or rule-breaking, to outright evil, and everything in between.

"On the one hand, I want to defend that, which I guess most moral philosophers won't defend, at least not in the radical way I would. And on the other hand, I want to say that a standard picture that people tend to get from a religious perspective of what it is to be evil, namely that there's something diabolical about it, or there's something contrary to the will of God. I think that there's psychological evidence that that's not why people do horrible things."

When Morton considered why people would do horrible things, his train of thought brought up the essential counter-point: why do people do good things, especially if being "evil" is actually an easier route? He answered this by exploring a survival scenario thought experiment.

"One of the things that was interesting me was the following thought: get a bunch of people, put them on a desert island [and] the best way to [survive] would be to seem very cooperative and friendly, then at the last minute when something really important — something life or death appeared — maybe to betray them, to cheat. When push comes to shove you move from being the friendly person to being the survivor."

Yet Morton holds that the cheater is often unsuccessful for the simple reason that people have come to anticipate him. Other people are on the lookout for such frauds and have evolved to be relatively good at detecting such individuals. Despite immersing himself in the search of human darkness, Morton seems to come to a conclusion that humanity's inherent imperfection would sync with an optimistic view of human nature.

"The problem of being a good cheat is [it's] actually very hard," Morton noted. "It may be not worth the effort; the easiest way of getting the benefits of cooperation may be to be sincere and actually like people — be prepared to actually sacrifice a lot for them. And while there is, in some sense, a better strategy — which is to fake it — that strategy may be too hard for us. So given that we have limited brains and limited capacity to fake one another, the simpler plan may be to be straightforwardly friendly."

CAMPUS DIGEST

Compiled by Jonathan Taves

PRICE BOOSTS APPROVED

The University of Alberta's Board of Governors met in December to consider residence and tuition increases, a meeting that typically occurs in late January. Students in U of A residences will need to set aside an extra 3.8 per cent to keep up with their rent. An overall 1.5 per cent increase in tuition was also approved in accordance with a provincially regulated cap imposed by the Canadian Consumer Price Index.

However, the market modifier increases that could see some faculties' tuition increase by more than 30 per cent will be part of the budgeting approval process over the winter term, pending provincial government permission for the hikes.

The Board also approved a $15-per-month increase for heated underground parking stalls, and granted the possibility of increasing other parking rates. A U of A rental car program is also being worked into next year's parking plans.

PRAIRIE PROTEST

U of A student Christopher White's Facebook group, "Canadians Against Proroguing Parliament," is in the national spotlight. It's growing quickly, with over 75,000 members as of press time.

The group encourages Canadians who are upset with Harper's decision to suspend Parliament until after the Vancouver Olympics to write their MPs and the Governor General expressing their disapproval. Rallies taking place across the country on January 23 in protest are also being organized by the group.

HITTING HOME

One of the four Canadian soldiers killed by an improvised explosive device in Afghanistan on December 30, 2009 had earned an education degree at the U of A in 2005.

George Miok was a sergeant in the 41 Combat Engineer Regiment, and had been a reservist while earning his degree.

HONOUR SYSTEM

After suspending the need for doctor's notes excusing students from assignments and exams for being sick during the H1N1 outbreak in the fall, the U of A Academic Standards Committee has made that rule permanent.

The policy has been expanded to include all illnesses, allowing students to defer assignments and exams. Students will be required to submit a form declaring they were sick, which could also be witnessed by a commissioner of oaths.

Dean admits facing deficit will challenge faculty

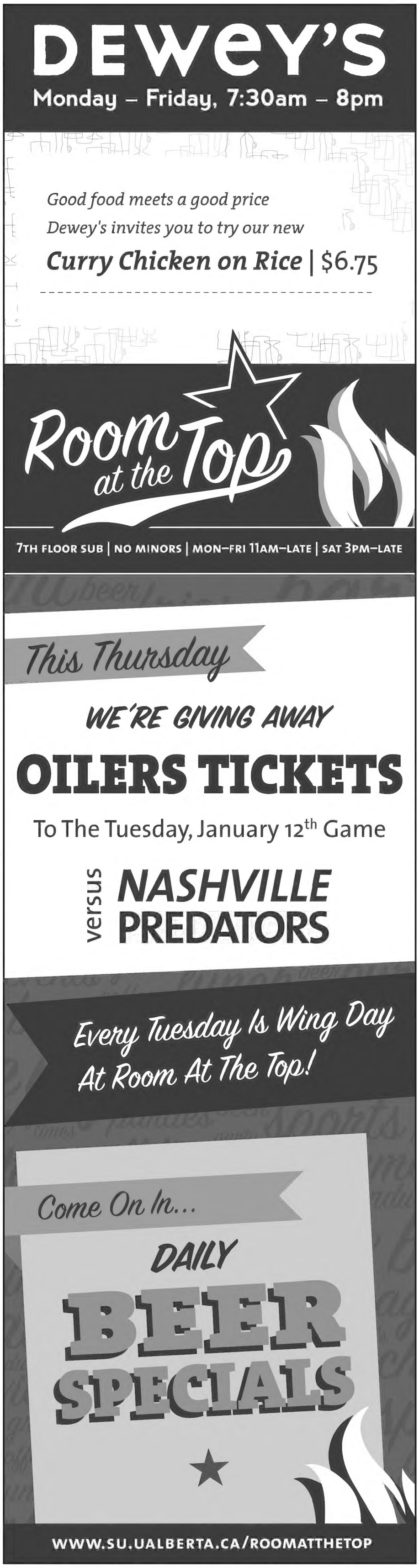
DEAN • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Organizing graduate students from disparate departments under a single faculty has already resulted in a non-differential market modifier for all grad students — different than the undergraduate model, which is applying differential tuition.

"FGSR is an administrative unit, which means I basically have bureaucrats, not professors working for me. I don't have the dilemma of whether professors need to be replaced to meet budget reductions," he said.

One strategy used so far to protect graduate student services has been to "trim [the] non-salary budget as far as we could" to avoid discretionary spending. But when faced with such cost-cutting dilemmas, he admitted that everyone might be forced to pull up their fiscal socks.

"If I don't travel very much, either, that's a part of the budget I can give up if I can preserve student services," Shirvani laughed.





Proper nutrition a long-term investment

REBEKAH HAMMOND
The *Omega* (Thompson Rivers University)



REBEKAH HAMMOND/THE *OMEGA*

NUTRITIOUS AND DELICIOUS Researchers say that a balanced diet shoud still include vitamin supplements to boost immunity and help overall cell health.

KAMLOOPS, B.C. (CUP) — Students need to eat more than just an apple a day to keep the doctor away.

"There's a sort of common perception that students are a bunch of nutritional morons and they don't know what they're doing, but a lot of students have thought about their diet," said Lanny Balcaen, who works as a vitamin specialist at the Nature's Fare natural health products store in Kamloops.

Balcaen sees quite a few students come through looking for dietary and nutritional advice.

Even when students think they're eating healthy by having fruit and vegetables daily, they're often still not getting all the vitamins and minerals needed to stay healthy and prevent future degenerative diseases, the vitamin specialist explained.

"We're getting and dying from cancer at three times the rate we were 40 years ago," Balcaen, a master herbalist and doctor of homeopathic medicine said. "There's something wrong with this picture. Obesity is rampant and diabetes is going off the charts."

Unhealthy lifestyles, environmental pollution, chemicals in food, and more can cause something called oxidative stress, the production of damage-causing altered molecules and atoms called free radicals. Free radicals are "oxidized," meaning they lose their neutral status as a molecule, but they can be neutralized with antioxidants.

"You know when you cut an apple and it turns brown? That's what happens [to our cells]," said Laura Kalina, a registered dietitian in Kamloops. "We're at an all-time high for oxidative stress in our environment, that's why we see more people with heart disease, cancer, etc. They're really not getting enough antioxidants. [University students] are probably more at risk than anybody."

Antioxidants neutralize the damaging effects of free radicals in the body and come from foods or supplements. The major ones include vitamin C, E, and beta-carotene.

"When you put vitamin C on [an oxidized apple], it prevents the browning," Kalina said.

For women between 19 and 50 years of age, it's recommended to eat seven to eight servings of fruit and vegetables a day, while for men it's eight to 10. A medium-sized fruit or half a cup of vegetables is one serving, according to the Canada Food Guide.

Yet both Balcaen and Kalina suggest finding a quality multivitamin and mineral supplement to take in addition to eating a healthy diet, even when following the Canada Food Guide.

"Research is showing we cannot get enough [vitamins and minerals] from our food, particularly the antioxidants," Kalina said.

Most importantly, a healthy eating lifestyle can prevent against eventually getting one or more of the chronic degenerative diseases four out of five Canadian seniors suffer from, according to the consumer edition of Nutrisearch's Comparative Guide to Nutritional Supplements.

"It takes three months for the body to get the cellular health up. The key is to keep doing it every day to keep your immunity up all the time, not just when you're getting [sick]," Kalina said.

"I think it's all about prevention."



After 68 days of personal indignities, limited grooming, and the occasional creeping of moustache hair into mouth (at least, in Mr. Frost's case, since Mr. Johnston's growth peaked about 60 days ago), the *Gateway*'s moustache competition is finally into the home stretch.

Only two men have been stubborn enough to keep the razor away from their upper lips, and in next Thursday's edition of the *Gateway*, a winner will be finally be crowned as the fabled "King of All That is Moustache".

If you want to have your say in the matter, visit *www.thegatewayonline.ca/moustache* and cast your vote for the one whose moustache reigns supreme. Now more than ever, your votes are crucial. Choose wisely, vigilant voters!

THE GATEWAY

Our editors feel like they've been growing their moustaches since 1910.

Harper brings government to a halt with prorogation

EMMA GODMERE
CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief

OTTAWA (CUP) —Government business has ground to a complete halt as Prime Minister Stephen Harper made the move to prorogue Parliament.

The Prime Minster's Office announced the move on December 30, indicating that Harper had spoken with Governor General Michaëlle Jean over the phone that day about the matter and that she agreed to suspend Parliament until after the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games in February.

"Our priority in the new session of Parliament will continue to be rapid and effective implementation of Canada's Economic Action Plan to benefit communities, workers, and businesses," the Prime Minister said in a press release on Wednesday.

"At the same time, we are already looking ahead to future challenges. These include restoring a balanced budget once our economy is fully recovered, and building a strong foundation for our economic future."

MPs have been on break since December 10 and were originally scheduled to return to Ottawa on January 25.

Along with halting regular House of Commons and Senate business, prorogation stops any bills making their way through Parliament and additionally brings all committee business to a standstill.

This includes the committee investigating the Afghan detainee issue, which has plagued the Harper government with controversy for over a month.

In November, former senior diplomat Richard Colvin told parliamentarians that some detainees who were transferred to Afghan prisons by Canadian troops had likely been tortured by Afghan forces.

Opposition parties have actively voiced their displeasure with the idea of stalling business such as this, according a QMI Agency article in the Toronto Sun on December 30.

> **"If the government attempts this manoeuvre, it's a shocking insult to democracy."**
>
> **RALPH GOODALE**
> LIBERAL HOUSE LEADER

"If the government attempts this manoeuvre, it's a shocking insult to democracy," Liberal House Leader Ralph Goodale said in the story. "The government is in a very sticky place with respect to Afghan detainees and they're running from accountability here — this is a cut-and-run government."

Prorogation also clears several government anti-crime bills off the table — including bill C-27, the anti-spam bill that has successfully passed through three readings in the House, two readings in the Senate, and has now been referred to committee.

U.S. academy claims oilsands worse polluter than reported

KEITH MCLAUGHLIN
The *Meliorist* (University of Lethbridge)

LETHBRIDGE (CUP) — A report published in December from the U.S.-based National Academy of Science says that industrial pollution from Alberta's oilsands operations is five times greater than industry and the government has claimed.

The National Academy of Science report found that the amount of toxic chemicals Syncrude and Suncor deposit into the surrounding environment each year is equivalent to a major oil spill.

The report, co-authored by University of Alberta ecologist David Schindler, contradicts claims from the Alberta government and the oil industry, which assert that the levels of toxic chemicals in the Athabasca River water system and in surrounding soils are a natural occurrence.

It also revealed that known toxic chemicals increase in intensity by 50 times when monitored downstream from oilsands operations, and says that oil companies are releasing 34,000 tonnes of toxic particulates each year into the nearby environment. This contradicts industry figures that suggest development is responsible for 6,000 tonnes of particulate pollution.

The report is yet another peer-reviewed study challenging the Alberta government's estimates of pollution and environmental destruction in the region from oilsands projects.

Dolphin debate just blowholin' smoke

JEEZ, DID DOUGLAS ADAMS HAVE IT RIGHT? Scientists in Georgia have started lobbying for dolphins to be granted the rights of personhood after recent forays and discoveries regarding their intellect. This raises a number of questions and concerns, not to mention skeptical eyebrows, but it's clear to me that the whole idea has its head underwater and needs to come up for air.

Lori Marino and Diana Reiss are on the verge of releasing studies wherein they argue that dolphins' capacity for intelligence, based both on behavioral studies and brain structure ratios, are enough to possibly reclassify their standing as "non-human persons." Thomas White, an impassioned dolphin-rights defender and professor of ethics who is supporting these studies, went so far to say that dolphins "qualify for moral standing as individuals." Uh-huh.

Look, I'm all for cetacean rights and respect therein, and I'm not trying to argue the established fact that dolphins are indeed intelligent. Even the layman can recognize these animals are capable of high mental acuity and their perceptions of reality can rival or compare to those of humans. They're clever. We get it. This, however, feels like the "Pluto isn't really a planet!" or "Quebec is going to be their own country!" debates, where it's just arguing over semantics, and accomplishes nothing more than tiring out everyone involved.

Arguing that this intelligence can necessarily translate across the lines of personhood is problematic, not in the least because it forces us to reconsider exactly what personhood means. Because it's been virtually synonymous with "human" for so long, opening up the topic to redraw new boundary lines is going to cause huge debate. And it bears mentioning that anything redefining personhood will undoubtedly bring up the abortion issue, with factions arguing that it's unjust that fetuses are denied rights while big grey fish-mammals get to swim around with identity crowns wrapped around their snouts.

This particular argument sprang from discoveries that dolphins could A) recognize themselves in mirrors, and B) walk on their tails *and* teach others how to do it. Perception, repetition of behavior, and mimicry aren't necessarily the basis to "qualify for moral standing as individuals" in my book. And my heavy heart sinks deep down under the rest of the human race on the day that something that could conceivably be featured on *America's Funniest Pet Tricks* permits personhood.

What Marino and Reiss are arguing will essentially boil down to that dolphins should be treated as more important than any other animal. Which is going to cause annoyance from umpteen other animal rights activism groups, claiming that *their* brand of cat or chipmunk or squid or bumblebee has developed mental agility unseen before, and thus should be a person too.

And where does this draw the line at something like bestiality? Unlike the old hackneyed slippery slope arguments regarding polygamy or homosexuality, the potential granting of human rights to nonhuman creatures represents a significant shift on that plane as well. If dolphins "qualify for moral standing as individuals," then how would this fare with a serious relationship between a human and a dolphin?

Sure, the image is conceivably funny, and there are no doubt a bunch of blowhole-related puns to be made, but putting those aside, isn't the granting of individual and personal rights to a creature enough to quash a blanket human-only sweep on the capacity for love? We're all just *people*, after all — why deny intelligent, communicative adults the right to express their love over a simple, needless thing like what species we happen to be?

Maybe it's not that simple. But it's certainly not as cut-and-dry as it used to be, and this is a big ol' can of worms that would be better left shut. I agree that, the way our society stands, dolphins require improved equity and recognition. Granting them personhood is not the way to do it. Marino, Reiss, and White probably have the best of intentions, but they need to say "hello" to high and dry, which is where they should be staying — this proposal is better off sleeping with the fishes.

DAVID JOHNSTON
Opinion Editor



BENJAMIN NAY

LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Art is for the people

To The Editor:

The University owns very few good paintings, but one of them is a very fine canvas by the distinguished Canadian artist A.Y. Jackson, one of the original Group of Seven.

In view of the relative scarcity of such works, it might seem reasonable for the painting to be hung in an easily accessible place, such as the library. But where is this particular work to be found?

In the foyer of the office of the president of the University.

Why?

Surely the president's artistic appreciation is not so delicate that he could not take a short walk when he feels the urge to see a good painting. And surely it would be a lot more convenient for most of the students and staff to see the same painting in a relatively accessible place, rather than traipsing up to the third floor of the Administration building to be met by a secretary demanding what they want in the president's office.

Perhaps a little more concern for culture and a little less concern for the adornment of offices would be more in the tradition of a University.

ROBIN HUNTER
October 8, 1963

The real question is why we'd ever want to

I am outraged at the discovery that two full-time *Gateway* editors are running in the Students' Union elections. In light of their actions and knowing that a great deal of student politicking has been going on for months behind-the-scenes, I have no choice but to question the integrity of this year's *Gateway* reporting.

Though impartiality is more than can be expected from even the most altruistic of writers, I hoped that it was not naïve to believe that student journalists would put something ahead of their own petty political interest. The thought that men selected to report accurately and analyze fairly the University/Student's Union activities, would abuse their mandate, and take unfair advantage of their positions to pontificate themselves into the SU executive deeply offends me.

To begin with, these candidates have had an opportunity, shared by no others, to espouse explicitly their so-called philosophies (or lack thereof) upon the editorial pages. More disconcerting, however, now that we are aware of their motives, is the recognition that their reporting itself is suspect, particularly where it refers to SU activities. Until now, I never suspected that, in a non-partisan campus paper, news stories slanting against one student politician would be written by someone planning on replacing him/her while good publicity would be given to potential running mates. Unfortunately, although it would be unfair to taint the entire *Gateway* staff with the same brush (after all, is blood really thicker than water?), the actions of its editors severely damages the paper's credibility.

Gateway editors who have masqueraded as impartial guardians of the University milieu only to reveal themselves as self-serving politicos have abused their trust and must resign their positions.

[Editor's Note: As explained in last Tuesday's *Gateway*, the editors in question have resigned their positions for the duration of the election.]

JAMES R. WEIR
February 3, 1983

Our first disgusting metaphor of the year!

I think you print too many *Gateways*. Allow me to make my point more clearly through a comparison: the *Gateway* and pubic hair.

We have so many that we really don't care if some of them fall out in the shower or during periods of personal affirmation. But if we had but one or two, we would undoubtedly treat them with care, making sure to shampoo, condition, and apply tonic regularly. Perhaps if you did not print such an excess of papers, people like me would not throw them out after reading just one article, and then pick up another to read another article a little later. Not only would you be wasting considerably less paper, but you would also save money on publishing.

RICHARD HARRY
October 5, 1993

Letters from the Archives is a semi-regular feature where the Gateway runs historical letters that we feel are of particular importance—or are just really hilarious. Also, when we have no actual letters and feel like running something funny on how Gateway editors would actually ever want to be a part of the SU exec. That would indeed be a scary world.

Present-day letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, sent via paper aeroplane or emailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway *reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature.*

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

Clinton poorly acclimatized



CODY CIVIERO

The latest episode in the tepid fight against global warming involved the distinctly icy Hillary Clinton gesturing at the Copenhagen conference last month. With feigned graciousness, she stated that the U.S. would contribute "its share" to a proposed $100-billion financing package for developing countries by 2020.

It's appropriate that a professional gangster like Clinton was the one to put forth such coercive posturing, topped off with the condescending uttering of "$100 billion is a lot. It can have tangible effects." Yes. Big numbers are big. But don't be fooled. Whether or not one is particularly well-versed in the science of climate change, or whether they even care about doing anything about it, the Corleone-esque undertones of all of this are pretty damn transparent.

The actual impact of climate issues took a backseat to a few more self-interested motivations. Firstly, to kill Kyoto, which stipulates that developed countries (such as the U.S. who have historically been more responsible for the current state of things), should have to take the lead in addressing them. And, secondly, to portray China and India as "the bad guys" who are undermining the fight against emissions."

After all, her speech implied that the deal will depend on countries like China and India agreeing to cut their emission rate and allow verifications, and if everyone else refuses to play by American rules, they get nothing. They'll inevitably refuse to contribute and fall back to previous talks exempting developing nations, and Clinton knows it. This is nothing more than theatrics for the court of public opinion.

I wouldn't mind this so much in itself if it wasn't blackmail and threats disguised as altruism and generosity with the obvious intent to fool poorly informed kids in Che Guevara shirts. The refusal to work with other countries and shameless self-interest is something I fully expect — not just from American officials, but representatives for every country. But I'd still appreciate it if politicians wouldn't continually insult everyone with an IQ on the right side of the bell curve with this bullshit.

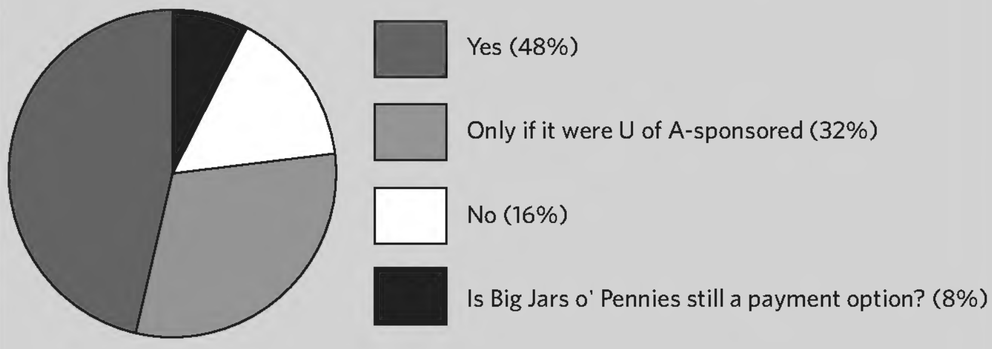
Contrary to being anything close to a resolution, this kind of posturing illustrates precisely why the climate problem is unsolvable. Not only is it global in scope, but there are a plethora of additional reasons — different states are responsible to different degrees, they have vastly different amounts of economic resources to work with, they're marred in rivalries and bad blood, and different regions will affect certain areas of the globe far more drastically than others, to simply examine the tip of the iceberg. Without even adding the degree to which it's been politicized by every domestic politician drawing pay, it makes an issue like health care or education seem absurdly simple.

Clinton's posturing illustrates precisely why the climate problem is unsolvable. It makes an issue like health care or education seem absurdly simple.

While the extent of the consequences of global warming are still fuzzy (I personally don't think that there's a legitimate debate over whether it really is happening or whether human activities are partially responsible), we'll figure it out in due time, as a result of these deadlocks. Maybe things will be less gloom and doom than the worst predictions of today suggest, and maybe there isn't a lot that we can do about it anyway. But regardless of your thoughts on the potential outcome of climate change, nobody should tolerate this kind of fatuous, insincere showmanship in the meantime.

readerpoll

"If given the option, would you pay tuition via credit card?"



TOTAL RESPONSES: 50

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:
"Will you be participating in Anti-Freeze this year?"

vote online at thegatewayonline.ca

THE BURLAP SACK

As a person with a dietary condition who regularly buys meals on campus, the food options for me are often very limited. A good standby and one of my very few healthier options was L'Express's potato salad. However, this Tuesday I stopped by and found my salad looking... well, funky. There's really no other word for it.

I hesitated, but decided to be optimistic and chalk it up to overcooked potatoes. This was not the case, and while I didn't end up sick from the new recipe, I was grossed out enough by the revamped flavour to throw it out only half-eaten. It was overly salty and weird, tasting almost like they'd marinated the potatoes in soy sauce or something. I'm at a loss for words as to how to describe what they did to my beloved potato salad, but they messed it up somehow.

For the past year and a half of my degree I've had a only a handful of hold-outs that I eat day after day, so to have my options cut down even by one is pretty darn devastating. And I'm not normally a person who abhors change, but I have learned through experience that any food-related aspect of my life that the SU changes turns to shit almost instataneously.

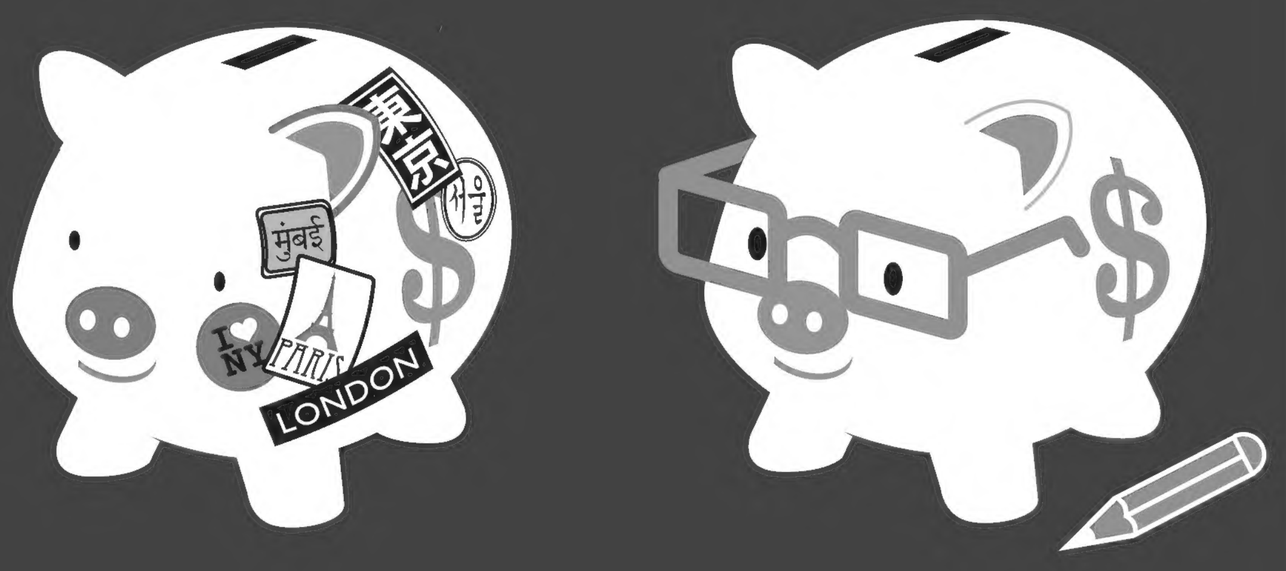
They did it to RATT, and now they've taken away my potato salad. So, SU businesses, why don't you all crawl into the sack and snuggle up tight. The beatings will be performed with a sack of potatoes, for added irony.

KELSEY TANASIUK

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.

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IT'S YOUR EDUCATION, YOUR MONEY — START ASKING QUESTIONS

Kitchen disasters of all mankind

Stalwartly determined to label themselves as clichés, the boys of *Gateway* Opinion share their most embarassing moments of a culinary nature



OPINION STAFF

Group Commentary

Far be it for the *Gateway* to pull out hackneyed gender stereotypes. It's true that we live in an enlightened age of balance and equality, when men and women can be athletes and ballerinas and presidents alike. Our era is great, and we strongly encourage impartiality in all things male- and female-determined.

That being said, turns out that, occasionally, the stereotypes are true — after a quick survey of the males of the *Gateway* office, it seems that the old chestnut about guys not being able to cook might just have a grain of truth to it. At the risk of damaging our masculinity-at-large, what follows are kitchen disaster stories from our manliest of men.

Sean Steels

Gravity, cooking, and the absent-mindedness induced by alcohol are never a good combination, as I learned when I attempted cooking after a night of libations with friends.

After arriving home with stomachs growling, we decided the only thing to do was make delicious western-style omelettes. Unfortunately, at the root of this kitchen disaster story, every clean pan in the house was too tiny to fit enough omelettes for a room full of intoxicated university students.

But a solution was forthcoming: we could make do by cooking in two separate pans, and as the least intoxicated party member — at least that's how I remember it — it was automatically my job to cook for everyone else. Things began smoothly enough: we found two clean pans, one of lightweight aluminum, and another of weighty cast-iron, and the eggs began frying. However, as time passed, and more drinks were consumed — did I mention we kept drinking? — my attention to small details faded.

After 15 minutes of stirring and batting, while turning to the rest of the room to partake in kitchen conversation, the positioning of my pans slipped from memory. Reaching forwards, my hand came to rest on what I believed was the weighty cast-iron pan. Unfortunately, I was mistaken. Grasping the handle of the lightweight aluminum pan, I hoisted it into the air, and expecting an iron-like heft, watched in pain as the delicious contents of my pan skyrocketed upward into the kitchen's ventilation system.

But don't worry. I got half of it back.

David Johnston

So, as it turns out, it's often a good idea to actually *read* the recipe before attempting to *make* the recipe. I learned this lesson the hard way a few years back. The goal was to attend a Moroccan-themed party, where I had been asked to bring a meal. Lacking much culinary experience, I pulled an easy lemon-and-potato salad recipe off the Interweb, confident that I couldn't screw up salad too badly.

You know what's important for a lemon-and-potato salad? *Lemons*. And we didn't have any. Needing to be at the party in 45 minutes, I decided in my infinite wisdom that oranges would be an acceptable substitute for lemons, as they were both citrus fruits. It made sense at the time.

That pretty much set the tone for the rest of the meal, where it turns out that every ingredient in the dish had been stolen from my cupboards by a malicious cadre of elves. Too embarrassed to go back to the drawing board, I forged on, performing more addition and substitution than a temporary math teacher. The transcript of that evening went something like this:

"So I need onions... but I don't have any. Onion powder should be a good substitute. Damnit, we're out of oil. Maybe I can fry the potatoes in cream. Gah, you are not what I thought you were, salad... what the hell is fenseed? Here's something called fennel. I'll just throw in some celery to disguise the taste. Hmm, this should've actually been *cooked* — hopefully no one will notice," and so on in that fashion.

Fearing for the worst, I eventually threw everything into a big dish, shook it together, then covered it with a lid and hurried to the party. If nothing else, it gave me an excellent conversational ice-breaker: "It's a salad ... I think."

I never got invited back. It was probably the fennel.

Jonathan Taves

One of my favourite snacks in my youth was fruit smoothies, which I would usually prepare with bananas, mangoes, or berries. The snack led to a good number of kitchen mishaps: spilling on the floor, missing lids before turning on the blender, and so on, and so forth. Although this particular incident wasn't my own doing, it did teach me a valuable lesson.

One memorable afternoon, I took an assortment of frozen blackberries, blueberries, and raspberries out of a sandwich bag and carefully held the seal between my index finger and thumb to close the seal before returning it to the freezer. As I sat sipping on my beverage, my dad came into the kitchen, immediately pulling open the freezer.

"These berries will spill all over the place if you don't close them properly," he cautioned, noticing that the bag was open. "I did," I protested. "No, you didn't," he said. "Maybe it's broken," I suggested. He set the bag on the counter and, with flair demonstrated how superior his Ziploc-closing skills were to mine.

"There," he declared triumphantly, and, to emphasize the seal's strength, grasped the bag by its bottom corners and turned it upside down. As students of dramatic irony can probably guess, the kitchen floor instantly resembled an Okanagan berry farm during harvest. After being told to stop being a "smartass," I took my smoothie to my room, laughing, as he went to the broom closet. I guess the bag was broken.

Jonn Kmech

My kitchen disaster example is what happens when chemical sciences combine with the unbelievable stupidity of youth to form a near-death experience that, in hindsight, was all manners of terrifying. Back in my hometown of Brooks, Alberta, there was essentially nothing to do during Grade 11 spares, so my friends had the deeply cerebral idea to make smoke bombs. The experience of taking a tuna can filled with chemicals and lighting it on fire in the middle of a field to watch it puff clouds of smoke is *also* pretty fucking boring, but hey — there was fire and it was easy. I was sold.

The day it happened was the first time I had been invited out to cook, and it would also be my last. The smoke bombs were made with chemicals purchased from any garden store and cooked in pots at my friend Steve's house. It seemed like a pretty good timewaster, but alas, the best laid plans of mice and high school students were thwarted by shoddy cookware. Baking the chemicals tended to ruin my friend's mom's pots, so my friends went to the local Co-op to get cheap pots, which the fire marshal would later inform us was our primary mistake. The pots we used didn't distribute the heat evenly. I watched, obviously an innocent bystander in cahoots with felons, as the chemicals burned through the bottom of one pot, igniting as they touched the stove element and sending a three-foot-high green flame surging upwards into the oven hood.

As my other partner in crime went to move his pot away, it ignited, singeing off his eyebrows and the front of his hair. He reflexively tossed it, sending flaming chemicals across Steve's linoleum kitchen floor and starting a giant green fire that quickly filled the house with smoke. Hoping to keep my distance, I tried leaping like a gazelle over the fire, which we quickly stomped out, then high-tailed it to the door. From there, we called Steve's dad who was, understandably, mildly upset when he showed up to a houseful of green smog and a burnt floor. I drove my friends to the hospital while his dad dealt with all the fire-fighting-related issues. Steve got a third-degree burn on his foot, damages were pegged in the tens of thousands, and I needed a clean pair of shorts.

So the lesson learned: making smoke bombs is awesome. And I'm still sorry, Mr. Gausman.

Sam Brooks

I honestly can't remember how old I was when this happened, so let's just say I was young and stupid. Of course, that could be any time up to three weeks ago. While at home by myself one day, I had the brilliant idea to make some juice. I dug a can of frozen OJ concentrate out of the freezer, which presented the problem that the juice was currently much too solid for consumption. Since defrosting using the microwave wasn't an option due to the metal caps on the juice can, the oven seemed like the next best option. Due to its long preheat time, it was decided that I could safely leave the juice in there and proceed on to something else.

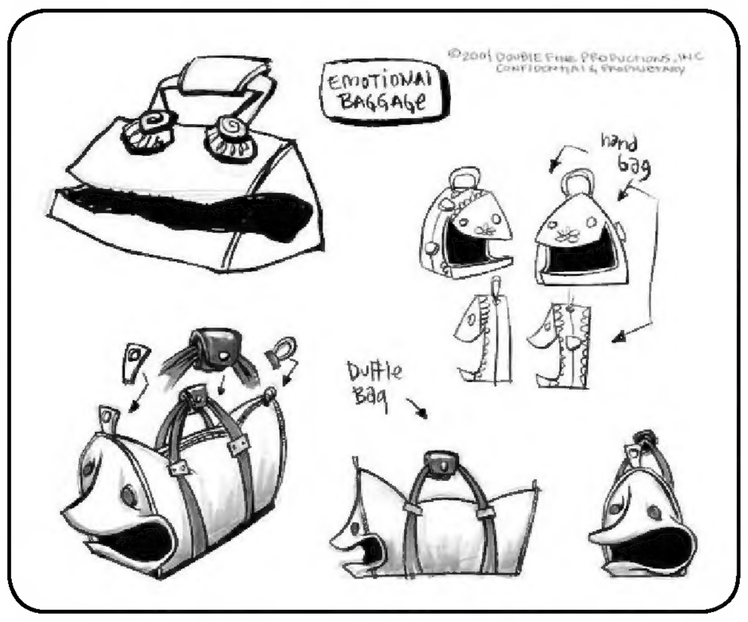
Naturally, I forgot about the juice in the oven.

Soon my house was filled with the pungent aroma of burning oranges while the oven had become sort of a thick orange waterfall. This would have been about the time that one of my friends came over only to be greeted with what will forever be known as one of my finest kitchen moments. Thanks to copious quantities of potentially harmful chemicals, every available fan in the house, and self-cleaning oven technology, I am convinced that my parents were never aware of this deadly citrus attack on their pristine kitchen. The most tragic part of the story? There was no backup frozen OJ waiting for me to try again.

Evan Daum

Leave the curve of your hockey stick up to the pros and not your oven, because a flaming Sher-Wood doesn't make for a tasty snack.

VIDEO GAME ANTIQUITIES:



EMOTIONAL BAGGAGE

One of the loveliest features of *Psychonauts* is its wonderful streak of literal definition. Here is a world where mental landscapes are cultivable, thought balloons can bear you aloft, and best of all, emotional baggage stores your anxieties and sadness in stylish designer luggage.

Gateway Opinion is occasionally that literal, in that we consider ourselves a literal gateway to a new and exciting world of journalistic fervour. If you'd like to board that fervour, volunteer meetings start up again in January on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. We'd love to help you carry your passioned purse or crying carry-on — join us, won't you?

GATEWAY OPINION

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the gateway online presents:

Tech Sustainability Tips



Tip #62: Reuse Old Computers

Your computer may not have the latest whizmos and gadgemabobs like "mice" or "CD-ROM drives," but you can still use it for basic tasks, such as word processery and/or visiting Internet destinations such as the *Gateway* Online. Get that Tandy out of the trash can and start surfin' web!

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FIGHTING THE

It's perhaps the most commonly made (and commonly broken) New Year's resolution. The motivations for losing weight are as varied as the reasons that many of us carry a spare tire around our midsection. For university students, especially those in first year, it's common to gain some weight — in fact, there's even a name for it: the legendary "Freshman 15." But this semester, six *Gateway* staff are committing themselves to changing their lifestyles, eating better, exercising, and, hopefully, shedding those extra few pounds.



Photos by Pete Yee
Compiled by Sarah Stead

Name: Mike Kendrick
Height: 5'10"
Weight: 220 lbs.
Age: 23
Year of study: 6
Weakness: A short attention span for long-term goals.

Prior to high school, I was a twig. Muscle mass never really defined my physique, and as I poured on the pounds leading up to university, they came more from the six cans of Mountain Dew Code Red I chugged per day, rather than from a regular workout. Since then, I've developed a self-congratulatory sense of satisfaction in my own laziness, adopting an attitude of, "If it feels good, do it." The few times that I *have* bothered to get off my ass and vowed to get in shape have lasted no longer than two weeks — up until the point where I lost interest or got distracted by the newest menu addition to the McDonald's burger lineup.

Now that I have the opportunity to make my quest to shed the love handles public, it should provide the motivation I need to make it past the 21-day mark that seems to be the minimum for making a habit permanent. Laziness will be a weak excuse if I've got my peers and fellow participants egging me on, and by the end of the run, I'm hoping that a deeper pool of stamina will feel better than adding a fourth cheeseburger to my daily diet.

Name: Sarah Stead
Height: 5'4"
Weight: 149 lbs.
Age: 21
Year of study: 4
Weaknesses: Licorice, peanut butter, and gin.

There comes a time in your life when you have to sit down and answer to yourself honestly: is the dryer *really* shrinking all of my clothes? I was always a chunkier kid, but I started to gain the most weight when puberty hit. On the plus side, there was finally something in my training bra other than rolled up socks. On the negative side, everything else grew to match.

In February of 2009, I hit my highest weight ever at 175 lbs. and realized that the only appliance I had to blame was the fridge. I spent the summer slowly changing my eating habits, making all of my own meals, carefully measuring all of my food, and getting outdoors and to the gym more often. By the end of the summer, I weighed 141 lbs. Of course, the moment I was back on campus, those new found good habits began to dissolve as classes, work, and studying devoured all of my free time. It was extremely disheartening to watch the numbers on the scale creep back up again, undoing all of the hard work I'd put in over the summer months.

I want to challenge myself to maintain a healthy lifestyle, even when it's also a busy lifestyle. Fitness and health are ultimately more important than whatever number I end the semester at, but there *is* a pretty sexy pair of jeans I bought during a Boxing Day sale that I'd love to be wearing in April.

Name: Julianna Damer
Height: 5'7"
Weight: 152 lbs.
Age: 19
Year of study: 2
Weaknesses: Bread, snacking before dinner, and resorting to sugar for an energy boost.

Being in the spotlight about losing weight is a scary prospect, but I believe that this opportunity will help to motivate me to exercise, as well as stay focused on being healthy. Telling myself to make time to exercise is definitely easier said than done. I always manage to find time the first few weeks of each semester to go to the gym and to do yoga, but as soon as assignments stack up higher than the bench at the gym, I just stop going altogether.

My goal this semester is to find that elusive balance between exercising, homework, school, and other activities. While I can easily forget how much time I waste on Facebook, for some reason I can't "find time" to exercise. Sound familiar? I'm not necessarily in this to lose 15 pounds, however that would be a bonus. My biggest concern is keeping the extra pounds off. I would like, once and for all, to figure out just what eating habits and exercise plans would work for my body in order for me to keep up a healthy and active lifestyle.

From a more superficial standpoint, I'd like to tone up and maybe I will finally be able to tell whether or not I have an innie or an outie belly button. I can't weight — I mean *wait* to share my progress with other students who are hoping to become healthier and shed some pounds.

FRESHMAN 15



Name: Robert Frigon
Height: 5'7"
Weight: 209 lbs.
Age: 21
Year of study: 4
Weaknesses: Mini-marshmallows and Belgian beer.

I'm ready for a change. I have a theory that if you don't have Ninja Turtle washboard abs in your 20s, you won't be having them later on in life — and I want washboard abs. I'm ready to start working on my fitness again, now a year and a half after recovering from a broken wrist. Before my accident, I was 200 lbs. of muscle, but after a few short stays in the hospital for wrist surgeries, I had lost 35 lbs. Now, I'm back up to my pre-accident weight, but considerably less of that is muscle mass.

Now, I'm not a big fan of numbers — they seem very misleading. At the moment, I have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 35, which is considered obese. My original goal was to drop down to 180 lbs., but that would still leave me in the same category. I also feel it would be almost unattainable, since I'm trying to put on muscle mass while burning fat. So, I have decided to do away with numbers and place my goals strictly in qualitative terms. Ninja Turtle abs, a toned body, and the ability to run a hard 80-minute rugby match are my long-term goals. To get me started, I'm looking for a squash partner. Feel free to get in touch, ladies.

Name: Danielle Jenson
Height: 5'5"
Weight: 165 lbs.
Age: 19
Year of study: 2
Weaknesses: Chocolate and random munching.

I'm participating in this gig for enjoyment and health. It's an interesting and exciting way to challenge myself to sticking to weekly exercise routines. It's also an incentive to change my incomplete eating habits. I hope that publicly displaying my challenge will help me to be successful.

In general, my goal is to lose 10 to 15 lbs. through exercise and healthy eating. I want to change my lifestyle back to being active, energetic, and fit. As an ex-athlete, coming to University was a major change. Now instead of eating, studying, and playing sports I eat, study, and study. Usually people who have played sports as long as I have would continue doing so in university. However, I became intimidated by intense course loads and attempted to limit my extracurricular activities.

With more involvement in student life, I'm more motivated with my studies and more focused. I realized that balance was the key to success in university. So this is where my change is centered: the search for balance.

Name: Dustin Blumhagen
Height: 6'1"
Weight: 220 lbs.
Age: 28
Year of study: 3
Weaknesses: Tim Hortons mochas, donuts, and cookies.

Over the holidays, I realized that I love to eat fresh baking. After contemplating this revelation, I realized that I've always had a sweet tooth. With the hectic schedule of school and work, I have slowed down the amount of physical activity I take part in. For the first time, I noticed that my diet and lack of activity has taken a toll, and I started to see a significant root-beer-gut growing. So, before it gets out of hand, I thought that I should check it and get back to living a healthy lifestyle. After recently completing a Human Ecology Nutrition course, I learned many startling facts about the poor habits I have, and I would like to use my new knowledge for my own benefit. It's too easy to be lazy and eat while studying, but I believe that with a little motivation I can get back to my healthier self. I don't want to end up being a chubby Physical Education teacher who teaches the kids, but can't actually participate in their activities.

On April 1, after 12 weeks of hard work and healthy changes, the *Gateway* will follow up with the Freshman 15 crew to chart their progress. In the meantime, over the course of the semester, each participant will be blogging about their experiences, challenges, and successes.

FOLLOW THEM AT:
thegatewayonline.ca/blogs/freshman15

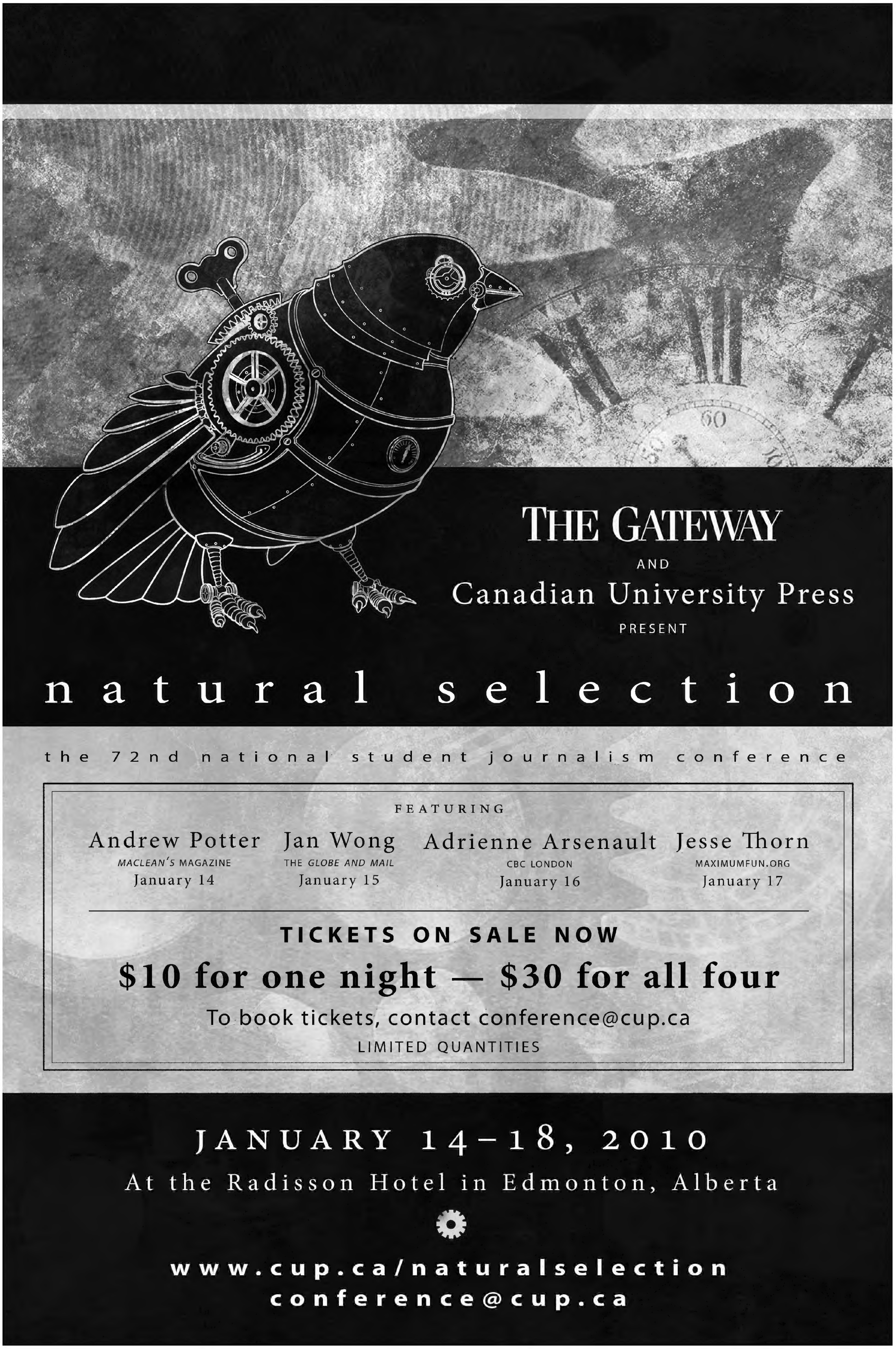
The culprits of the Freshman 15 are no doubt familiar to most of us: inactivity, poor nutrition, and busy schedules. When you're juggling up to five classes, working part-time, and trying to maintain a social life, packing healthy lunches and getting to the gym regularly can seem like impossible tasks.

"Convenience and time are big factors for university students, as well as money, which leads them to purchase less healthy options," explains Dana Olstad, a graduate student studying nutrition and obesity at the U of A.

According to Olstad, the formula for healthy weight loss is relatively simple: reduce your caloric intake while adding protein into your diet, and get at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise per day. She also adds that a healthy rate of weight loss is about 1–2 pounds per week. Any more than that, and you're losing muscle.

Finally, she reminds students that if it took you a while to put the weight on, it's going to take time to take it back off, and you're going to have to make some lasting changes.

"Weight loss is not short term," she says. "To keep the weight off, you need to keep doing what you were doing while you were losing the weight. You need to do something you can be doing for life or it's just going to come back."



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Cuff the Duke

With Blue Rodeo
January 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m.
Jubilee Auditorium (11455-87 Ave.)
$50.50-66.50 at Ticketmaster

My first assignment for the *Gateway* was an interview with Cuff the Duke. I cannot express how nervous I was. But I had little cause for concern. These guys are friendly and down to earth — the embodiment of everything wonderful about Canadians. Their music reflects their pleasant demeanour and is worthy of your ears. They're so great, in fact, that they managed to get a little band called Blue Rodeo to graciously close the show for them on their cross-country tour.

Ian Tyson

January 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m.,
January 9 at 2:30 p.m.
Horizon Stage (1001 Calahoo Rd., Spruce Grove)
$30-40 at Ticketmaster

The majority of press that Alberta cowboy Ian Tyson has gotten in recent years has either been linked to his friendship with Corb Lund or focusing on his new voice. The smooth country singer suffered various problems that resulted in damage to his vocals, but after a few listens to his latest material, it really doesn't matter. He has always been first and foremost a storyteller, with his music backing his tales up. Growing up on the road during the summer with my dad, headed from one rodeo to the next, we wore out multiple cassettes of Ian Tyson and Chris LeDoux. The stories he weaves reflect the glory of the cowboy and country life in Alberta. Like fellow country music rebels Johnny Cash and Kris Kristofferson, the 75-year-old songwriter seems to be getting better with age.

Michael Rault

with Mudhoney
Friday, January 8 at 8 p.m.
Starlite Room (10030-102 St.)
$30 at Ticketmaster, Megatunes, and Blackbyrd

This hard-working young musician is slowly gaining a name in the local scene. After years of being overshadowed by his father, Lionel Rault, Michael is finally getting the recognition he deserves. The bluesy stomp of his latest garage rock EP is likely to gain him legions of new fans as he gears up for a steady round of touring over the next few months. This week finds him opening for grunge legends Mudhoney in Edmonton, with a tour supporting Jay Malinowski of Bedouin Soundclash to follow. He also has plans for a cross-Canada tour in the works and a possible European tour in the early planning stages. No one will be calling him lazy any time soon. Take in his intimate local show this week before this kid explodes.

DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN
Bye bye baked goods...

Tegan and Sara settle into *Sainthood*

After more than a decade of making music, the Quin sisters decided to do something new: write together



musicpreview

Tegan and Sara

With An Horse
January 11 Sold Out
January 12 at 7:30 p.m.
Jubilee Auditorium (11455-87 Ave.)
$36.65-44.15 at Ticketmaster

SARAH STEAD
Arts & Entertainment Editor

If Tegan and Sara are known for one thing besides their unique Quin-branded pop songs, it's for being notorious chatterboxes.

Anyone who's seen the twins perform can attest to the fact that, in addition to a few hours of music, you'll also likely to hear stories about the writing process behind their songs and a few goofy throwbacks to their childhood — and some sisterly bickering is pretty much a guarantee. But for once, Sara Quin is much quieter than usual.

Stricken with a bad cold, she has to cancel our phone interview (and according to her publicist, nearly forty others) because she's lost her voice. However, she agrees to make up these interviews via email while she recuperates somewhere in east Vancouver while preparing for her upcoming tour in support of Tegan and Sara's newest album, *Sainthood*. Talk about being a workaholic.

For their past five full-length albums, the Quin sisters have written their songs individually, not as a pair, as is commonly assumed. On the bonus DVD that comes with their album *The Con*, Sara jokes that this is "the lie of Tegan and Sara." However, in preparation for their sixth album, the twins decided to take a sojourn to New Orleans and write together.

"We have very different approaches to our song-writing process," Sara explains. "Tegan starts with lyrics and guitar chords, whereas I like to begin with rhythm and instrumentation. I also found that I worked slowly and more meticulously. Tegan often writes quickly and impulsively. It was as if we were approaching from completely opposite places."

And in some ways, they were. During the writing of *The Con*, Sara was in a happy, long-term relationship, while Tegan was feeling the sting of a failed romance. For *Sainthood*, Sara found herself single for the first time in more than five years and Tegan, despite a few bouts of unrequited love, found herself newly coupled. This romantic reversal between the sisters produced songs that were "darker and a little more 'math rock.' "

> **"We have very different approaches to our song writing process [...] I also found that I worked slowly and more meticulously. Tegan often writes quickly and impulsively. It was as if we were approaching from completely opposite places!"**
>
> **SARA QUIN**
> ON WRITING WITH TEGAN FOR THE FIRST TIME

Ultimately, none of the songs produced during the New Orleans sessions fit artistically with the other songs already chosen for the new record, but Sara says that the writing sessions with her sister were still a fond experience.

"I would love to write with [Tegan] again in the future," she adds.

The lead track from *Sainthood*, "Arrow" is one of Sara's contributions to the album. While the track seems to suggest that the arrow might be Cupid's, Sara is a bit coy to unravel its somewhat cryptic meaning any further.

"The song was written for someone who I didn't really know yet," she says. "It was intended as a survey about their behaviour and intentions, but also a warning of sorts about my own."

The final decision to call the record *Sainthood* was a nod to a lyric from Leonard Cohen's song "Came So Far For Beauty," in which he croons "I practiced all my sainthood / I gave to one and all / But the rumors of my virtue / They moved her not at all." According to Tegan and Sara, their conception of sainthood was a metaphor for "secular themes of devotion, delusion, and exemplary behaviour in the pursuit of love and relationships."

In addition to releasing *Sainthood* late last fall, the Quins also poured themselves into another, non-musical project: a three-book set about their 2008 U.S. national tour, their 2009 headlining tour of Austrailia, and their collective writing and recording sessions in New Orleans in the fall of 2008. The set, titled *ON, IN, AT* includes photography and essays by Tegan and Sara, as well as some of their musical friends.

"We thought that [these three experiences] would all make great books, especially because, contrasted together, they would show very different parts of our lives — scenically, but also emotionally," says Sara.

Now, with a new tour, a new album, and three new books, the sisters are poised for a prosperous new year. Even with all that the duo has accomplished, Sara says that there is still one smaller resolution she's planning on making for 2010.

"I would like to get my driver's licence," she says, adding that Tegan has yet to take her road test either. "We have spent so many years touring and I have neglected to go through the process as of yet.

"I like to think it has less to do with me being lazy, and more to do with my love of bicycles and mass transit!"

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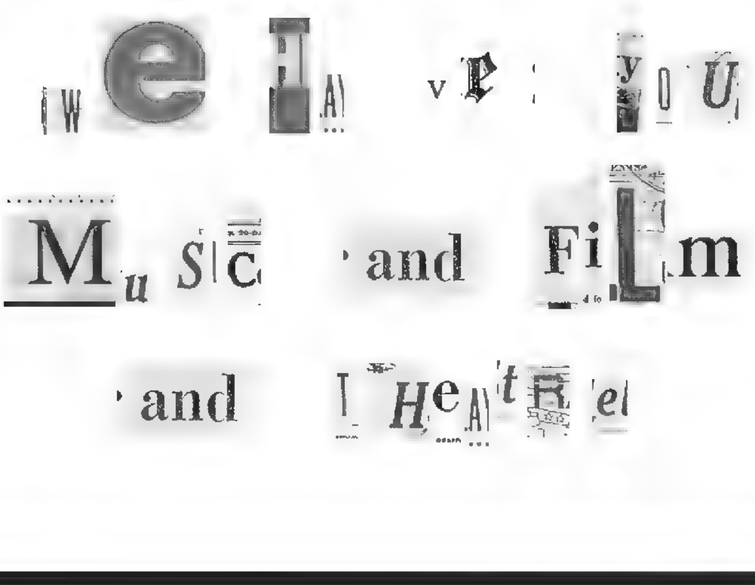
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Daybreakers' vampires less sexy, more deadly

***film*review**

Daybreakers
Directed by Michael and Peter Spierig
Starring Ethan Hawke, Willem Dafoe, Harriet Minto-Day, and Damien Garvey
Opens January 8

MIKE DADURAL
Arts & Entertainment Staff



With the ever-growing popularity of the *Twilight* series, vampires are beginning to become less like terrifying monsters that feast on our blood while we sleep, and more like immortal sex objects that, for whatever reason, sparkle in the sun. As a result, vampires seem less menacing on the big screen than they once were, but directors Michael and Peter Spierig try to change that with their latest horror film.

Daybreakers takes place in the year 2019, after a viral outbreak affects the majority of the world's population, turning its inhabitants into vampires. Those who remain human are being hunted and harvested by companies for their precious blood, but as the last of the human population dwindles, so does the supply of blood that the rest of the vampires need to survive.

The film mainly focuses on Edward (calm down, *Twilight* fans) Dalton (Ethan Hawke) a vampire scientist who is in charge of finding a blood alternative to solve the global shortage to help prevent the extinction of humans and vampires alike. He later teams up with a band of humans, led by Lionel "Elvis" Cormac (Willem Dafoe) to help find a cure to the vampire plague.

With the newer, sexier image of vampires dominating popular culture, it's great to see the writers of the film, Michael and Peter Spierig, take vampires back to their roots. They're depicted as still having a sense of humanity within, and are able to carry on with their lives as though nothing happened (but only at night, of course). But given the fact that they turn into absolute savages at the sight of an unbitten neck or a drop of blood, having them lose that shred of humanity in an instant really gave them a menacing quality, giving the audience a reason to fear them once again.

While the film had solid acting and an interesting premise, the second act really prevented *Daybreakers* from being something great. The first act serves to introduce characters and build up the conflict of the story, whereas the second just turns into a mindless gore-fest that leaves the audience with a bleak and dubious ending that doesn't resolve any conflict whatsoever.

But putting its faults aside, there is some fun to be had in this film. There are still scares and horror fans will get a kick out of Willem Dafoe's portrayal of a crossbow-toting vampire hunter.

Not to mention, the film's visual style is very appealing, with sharp contrasts between the serene daytime and the bustling, yet lifeless night. Even though the special effects aren't on par with the likes of *Avatar*, they still manage to make everything seem believable and real. A great example of this is when we see Dalton stand in front of a mirror, but the reflection is just a floating shirt. It's the subtle moments like that which help make the film enjoyable.

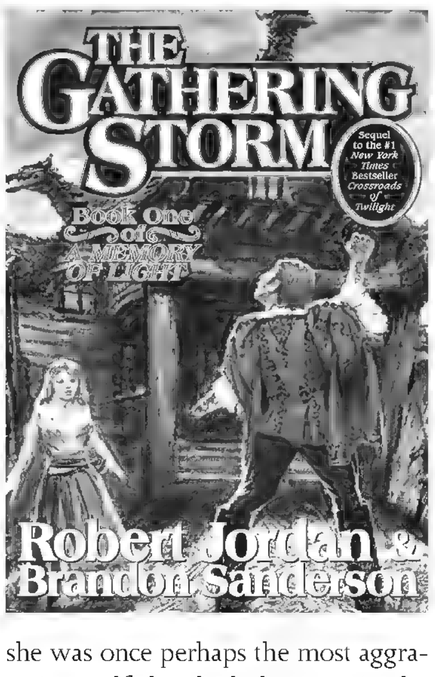
Even though *Daybreakers* had some pacing issues between the two halves, it's quite easy to ignore these faults and enjoy it as a great horror flick with vampires that kill, not sparkle.

Fantasy book released posthumously satisfies longtime fans of Robert Jordan

***book*review**

The Gathering Storm
By Robert Jordan and Brandon Sanderson
Published by Tor Books

CATHERINE CHUCK
Arts & Entertainment Writer



The Gathering Storm is the 12th book in Robert Jordan's *Wheel of Time* fantasy series, but unlike the 11 previous novels, it's virtually all pay off. It's a fulfilling read, but only if you've been following the 11 books of buildup.

Unfortunately, *The Gathering Storm* is also a bittersweet novel. It has a new author at the helm, Brandon Sanderson, who took over for Jordan after his death in 2007. Thankfully, Sanderson loyally follows the notes left behind by the late author, so the question is no longer, "will the series be finished?" but "will it be any good?" The short answer: probably.

The only significant deviation from Jordan's established style is a focus on only two main plots. In *The Gathering Storm*, Rand is the poor sap known as the Dragon Reborn, the one who is prophesized to fight the final battle against the Dark One when the latter inevitably escapes from his prison. Rand has conquered virtually half the continent and struggles to unite the rest of the continent before the Last Battle.

The second plot follows Rand's childhood friend, Egwene. Though she was once perhaps the most aggravating, self-absorbed character in the previous novels, in this book she's grown into the fierce rebel leader of the Aes Sedai, esteemed female channelers who have been cast from the White Tower. Virtually single-handedly, Egwene instigates the White Tower's fall.

Egwene's newfound badassery marks just one of Sanderson's welcome additions to the series. Robert Jordan's chiefest weaknesses was his curious take on gender politics. In many ways, he seemed to be under the impression that men were hilarious and that women were perpetually abrasive, manipulative, and self important, but, this was somehow justified because at least they were right all of the time. Um, no. *Just no.*

Sanderson does his best to give the women in the novel some sort of rootability while retaining their essence. They're still irritating, but now they're also more self-aware and capable of empathy. For example, after an Aes Sedai complains about how a man failed to follow their instructions, one of them stunningly points out, "This is what we all get for assuming we can make him do what we want." No shit.

Simultaneously, Rand gets chest deep in morally muddy waters, making this novel much darker and more visceral than its predecessors. Rand's internal struggle is particularly evocative because he literally has two voices warring inside his head, himself and the madman he was in another life, Lews Therin. In one of the most satisfying chapters of the series, Rand, sounding ever like Lews Therin, toys with destroying the world.

Unfortunately for the uninitiated, *The Gathering Storm* will be a confusing read. The novel brims with references to continuity as well as characters, and without background, some of the reveals seem insignificant. Plus, both Jordan and Sanderson play fast and loose with fantasy tropes (see: bizarre capitalization of the "Last Battle"), which may not be palatable to all readers. But for those familiar with the series, "satisfying" is the perfect word to describe this novel. It pushes along the plot, answers longstanding questions (for once), and most importantly, slowly integrates the cast together again. For fans of the series, it's a Christmas present and Valentine all in one.



Cera tries on new character, sort of

Youth in Revolt tips hat to goofy teenage love, awkwardness, and split personalities; as an added bonus, Michael Cera has to stretch his acting chops

filmreview

Youth in Revolt
Directed by Miguel Arteta
Starring Michael Cera, Portia Doubleday, Jean Smart, Steve Buscemi, Justin Long, and Fred Willard
Opens January 8

EVAN MUDRYK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Everything seems so important when you're 16, especially when it comes to matters of the heart. We're eager to share our own stories of naïve young love, no matter how trivial or melodramatic, because that's kind of what makes young love great.

Youth in Revolt stars Michael Cera as a young, awkward, sex-obsessed, adolescent hipster loser — basically, the same traits present in characters he's played in five of his other films, by my estimate. Not bad for a guy who's made a rather successful career out of essentially playing himself. In this film, Cera plays Nick Twisp, a 16-year-old who can't seem to find any lady friends in his hometown, because they're all apparently immune to his hipster charms. But when his family is forced into an impromptu vacation by a couple of angry sailors, Nick crosses paths with a pretty girl-next-door named Sheeni (Portia Doubleday).

Following the natural progression of teen courtship, Nick decides he and Sheeni are in love after she allows him to apply suntan lotion to her hard-to-reach places. Boners ensue and they lock lips a few times. What's this — do I hear wedding bells?

But to Nick's misfortune, Sheeni isn't particularly interested in being his girlfriend. Indeed, she isn't even that into him as a person either. Which is fair: he's an unlikable, pretentious misfit. On top of that, she's in love with a distant land, France, and the eventual life she plans for herself there with her ideal and imagined lover, who she dubs "François."

Following the natural progression of teen courtship, Nick decides he and Sheeni are in love after she allows him to apply suntan lotion to her hard-to-reach places. Boners ensue and they lock lips a few times.

But this doesn't stop our young protagonist of course, for, if we are nothing else, we are what we desire. And, he does have penis.

So, Nick invents an alternate persona, also named François, who is more capable of courting Sheeni, and, more generally, a total badass. The film is entertaining and not without its share of good moments. Regardless, it does feel like familiar territory at this point, both for teen romantic comedies in general, and Cera specifically. In the past two years, both *Adventureland* and *Superbad* covered much of the same material. While *Youth in Revolt* doesn't exactly set a new standard for teen-angst movies, fans of the genre should enjoy it regardless.

Few among us have forgotten those summers between Grades 9 and 10, where we re-invent ourselves in a miserable attempt at attaining that elusive affection of the opposite sex. Some of us rip our jeans, others grow bad moustaches — I started talking in a faux-British accent. And while this sort of reinvention is normally negatively portrayed in film in favour of the "be yourself" attitude, *Youth in Revolt* instead challenges what it means to be true to oneself.

Nick is very much the Edward Norton to François' Brad Pitt. And give the boy some credit: Nick might sometimes be shocked by François' behaviour, but he admires his doppelganger and is ultimately dependent on him. Unlike Nick's childhood friend, who sits in a tent on his parents' front yard, reading a book titled *Advanced Love Making* without ever having a girlfriend himself, Nick actually rounds the bases — metaphorically speaking.

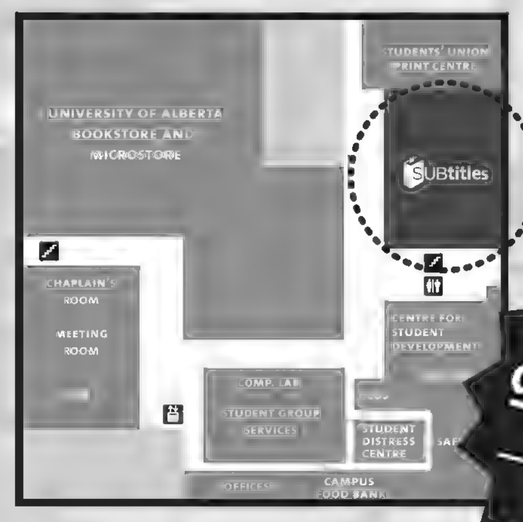
Hell, when you're young like Nick, even if you end up flying a little too close to the sun, at least you're still young and have a cute girlfriend to apply suntan lotion to those not-so-hard-to-reach places. Even if it's not in France, and even if it's not forever. Because that's what it's all about, isn't it?

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U of A alumnus aces visuals for Cameron's blockbuster *Avatar*

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE
CUP Alberta Bureau Chief



Todd Cherniawsky left Alberta to go to Los Angeles years ago for grad school and a career in Hollywood. These days, he's enjoying silver screen success — having most recently been a supervising art director of James Cameron's blockbuster *Avatar.*

Born in Edmonton, he received an architecture diploma from the Northern Alberta Institute for Technology and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art and Design from the University of Alberta. From there, he pursued filmmaking.

Cherniawsky says his schooling in Alberta allowed him to sample different types of design and improve his drawing skills. The province, he explains, provided a great foundation that helped him achieve success in Hollywood.

"I think it's a real testament to the whole faculty and staff [at U of A] to make things work for those who were trying to get into disciplines that weren't traditional to Alberta industry," he says.

With NAIT being one of the first technology schools in Canada to implement the use of digital tools, says Cherniawsky says that he feels "very lucky" to have been able to complete much of his education in Alberta.

The artist describes leaving Canada to attend graduate school in Los Angeles as an "eye opener," after he found himself in an environment where he was no longer the only one interested in film.

"I became very inspired and challenged because all of the sudden there's another dozen people like you, and maybe half of them have more talent than you [...] You have to push yourself to try and be successful, whatever that means in your own mind," he explains.

Cherniawsky worked hard to be successful and throughout his career he has contributed to some high-profile blockbusters. To date, he has worked as set designer and art director in over 20 feature films including *Armageddon* (1998), *Planet of the Apes* (2001), *War of the Worlds* (2005), *Ocean's Thirteen* (2007), and most recently Tim Burton's upcoming adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland.*

Cherniawsky described *Avatar* as one of the most involved, but also one of the most rewarding experiences of his professional career.

"For those people who are lucky enough to have something like *Star Wars* or *Raiders of the Lost Ark* on their resume, in some ways *Avatar* is [my] equivalent. It'll be something that will be talked about, and I think ingrained into people's memories for a little while, so it is nice to be part of something like that," says Cherniawsky.

"Because there was so much new technology [...] there was a lot of exploration, a lot of excitement along the way, and of course, a lot of momentary failures along the way. So, that all being said, it's been the best professional experience I've had."

His role as one of the supervising art directors for the film was to co-ordinate the live action, focusing specifically on the aircraft and vehicles featured in the film. Cherniawsky said that one of the unique parts of working on *Avatar* was the importance of realistic science in the film.

"I was really proud to be part of a project that involved so many real scientists at the cutting edge of their disciplines to act as advisors. Over 75 or 80 species of plants were designed from scratch and about a dozen and a half creatures as well [...] Things were driven to be plausible."

Cherniawsky's career has been driven not only by a passion for drawing, but also one for story-telling. An art director has a key role in bringing the story to the screen.

"When you read a book, whatever you create in your mind's eye of the world that the book exists in and how those characters move through that world, that's art direction: translating words into images. But we then have to go one step further and actually produce it," he says.

Cherniawsky's success has been the product of perseverance. For others with big dreams, he believes that there are no excuses for not finding a career that you love.

"As a kid when I walked out of the movie theatre, I thought 'Wow, wouldn't it be great to be able to do that,' but dismissing it immediately [...] We're now at a point where, if you can think up a job, you can find a way to get paid to do it."

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FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

FRIENDLY DINOSAURS Calgary's Paul Gentile sports four penalty minutes on the season, as part of a disciplined Dinos team.

First-place Ice Bears set to clash with Dinos in home-and-home

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

With a new calendar year comes new challenges for the Golden Bears hockey squad, as they open the toughest stretch of their regular season schedule this weekend in a home-and-home series against the Calgary Dinos.

Alberta comes into the series with their last action coming just over a week ago, when they hosted the McGill Redmen for a pair of non-conference games. The defending Canada West champions managed to skate away with a pair of tight one-goal victories over McGill, who, like the Bears, are searching for a return to the national tournament in Thunder Bay come March.

After posting a tremendous 14–1–1 conference mark in the first half of the season, the Bears will have their work cut out for them over the next few weeks, as the Calgary series marks the beginning of a stretch where the Green and Gold face the three teams chasing them for top spot in Canada West.

Calgary comes into the series after going 9–5–2 in the first half, which puts the Bears' provincial rivals in a tie with Manitoba for second place with 20 points — nine behind conference-leading Alberta. For Bears head coach Eric Thurston, the Calgary series kicks off a tough month for his team, opening that stretch against a dangerous Dinos team lead by first-year head coach Mark Howell.

"I think their level of play is really going to pick up in the second half, in the sense that Mark Howell has gotten to know the players, and the players have gotten to know him," Thurston explained.

"He has a good read on the league with what to expect and where his players sit, so I think they're going to be a real team to be reckoned with in the second half."

Calgary poses the first test of 2010 for a Bears team that hasn't lost since the end of October, when the Bears dropped a 3–2 decision against the Manitoba Bisons at home.

"This whole month of January is going to be very tough for us, and it's important Friday that we get off to a good start against U of C," Thurston said.

"The play always seems to pick up in the second half, and I really think Calgary is going to be a leader of that and we have to make sure we're not caught behind that."

The Bears and Dinos take to the ice this Friday at Clare Drake Arena at 7:30 p.m. before heading down to the Stampede City Saturday night for the second leg of the home-and-home series.

Both games can be heard online at www.bears.ualberta.ca.

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SAT. JAN. 9
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SAT. JAN. 9
Pandas vs. Calgary
7 p.m., Clare Drake Arena

VS.

Hockey Pandas open new year against last-place Calgary

Number-three ranked Alberta looks to keep their winning streak alive againt last-place Dinos

EMERSON CSORBA
Sports Staff

Howie Draper's Pandas hockey team appears to have had little trouble putting up solid performances against the rest of Canada West thus far this season. At a perfect 14–0–0 coming into the new year, sitting as the number-three ranked team in the nation, the road has been smooth for last year's Canada West silver-medallists so far.

Pandas hockey currently holds an eight-point lead in the Canada West standings with 28 points, but Manitoba sits only eight points behind with two games in hand on Alberta. Draper's next opponents, the Calgary Dinos, sit on the complete opposite end of the spectrum with a 1–11–0 record on the year.

But the Pandas are sticking to their philosophy from the outset — no game can be taken lightly. And over the break, the team hasn't lost any steam.

"We took two weeks off this break so that the players could recover physically," Draper said. "Many players were significantly physically fatigued. The players were given an off-ice training program so that they could stay physically strong."

Despite being crowned ACAC champions last year, Calgary has suffered through some growing pains this season after making the jump back to the CIS level.



FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

COPELAND CASHES IN Pandas forward Leah Copeland sits second in league scoring with 22 points through 14 games.

The Pandas will have no shortage of offensive firepower heading into the weekend, boasting 11 out of the top-40 scorers in the conference, including the top-two point-getters, Tarin Podloski (26) and Leah Copeland (22). Calgary, on the other hand, is led by Danielle Boyce, who has amassed six points on the campaign.

In a home-and-home series that capped off the first half of the season, Alberta triumphed 6–0 and 2–0 against the Dinos.

Draper knows that Calgary, who are in their first year back at the CIS level after a seven-year hiatus, will be a better team moving forward, having witnessed his opponent's improvement first-hand.

"They are a good young team that works very hard. In our games against them, I would say that they actually out-worked us. I wouldn't be surprised if they move up in the standings over the second half."

Alberta starts the second half of their 2009/10 campaign on the road Friday night in Calgary, before returning home Saturday for the second games of the series with a 7 p.m. showdown against the Dinos at Clare Drake Arena.

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Basket-Bears looking to escape standings log jam against pair of B.C. opponents

NATHAN LIEWICKI
Sports Staff

The Golden Bears hoops squad will open up the second half of Canada West play this weekend when the Simon Fraser Clan (6–1) and the Trinity Western Spartans (4–3) each pay a rare visit to the Main Gym.

At 5–5, the Bears are in a five-way tie for second place in the Prairie Division, but head coach Greg Francis is impressed with the way his team has worked in practice following the Christmas break.

"The guys look fresh and I think they'll come out with upbeat energy this weekend, and if they do that I don't see why we can't get the results we want."

"Before the break, the assistant coaches put together a workout program together for the guys and it appears they have all strengthened themselves," Francis noted.

The matchups with the two west-coast squads will present the Bears with two distinct challenges defensively. SFU generates the majority of its offence from the perimeter, and lead Canada West in three-point scoring.

Sean Burke and Kevin Shaw form one of the most dominant backcourts in CIS, and halting their strong ability to score will be a major key for the Bears defence versus the Clan.

"Simon Fraser finds ways to get hot from the perimeter every game and they generate so many open shots via screens, which is something we need to be ready for," Francis said. "We are as tough as anybody on the defensive side, so if we can do a solid job of defending the three, we can really make it tough for them."

The Clan are also third in the nation and lead the conference, shooting a staggering 75 per cent from the charity stripe; therefore, it's clear that the Bears need to stay out of foul trouble.

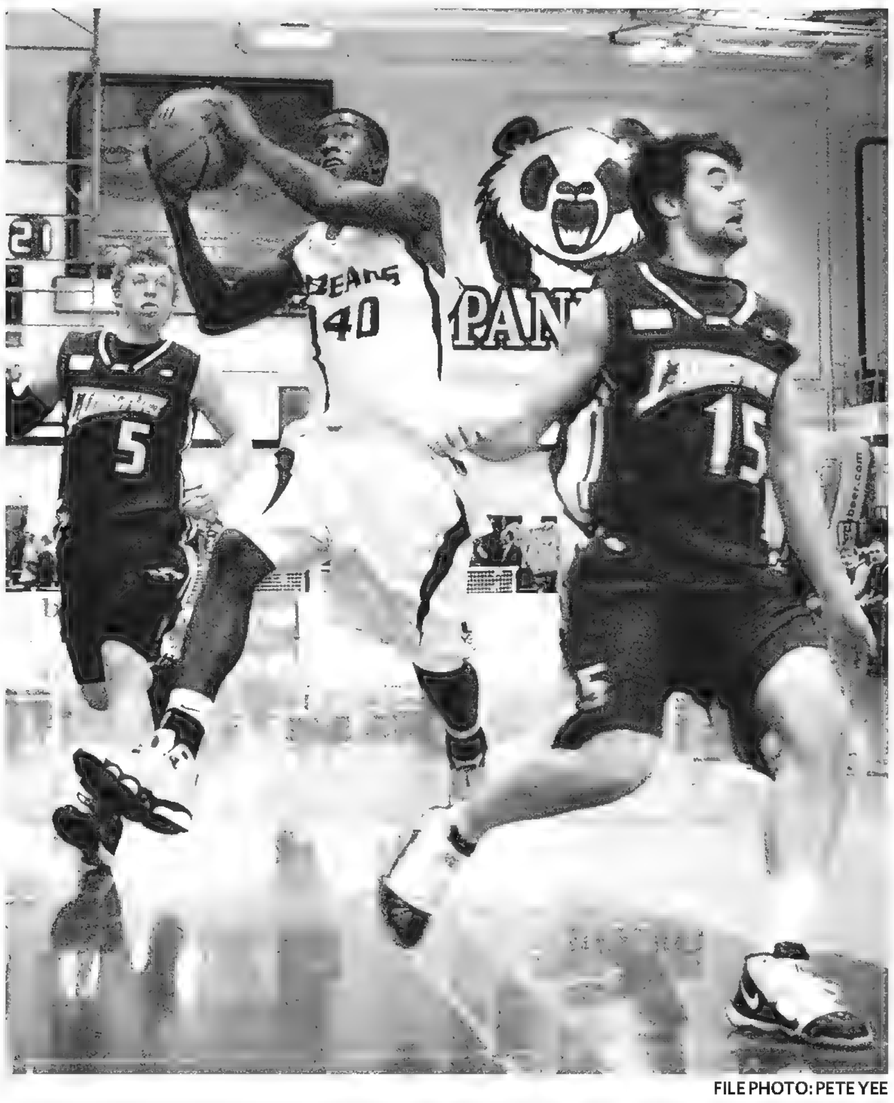
Unlike SFU, TWU relies on their forwards to provide the majority of their offensive opportunities, and they are led by fourth-year business student Jacob Doerksen. He's the third leading scorer in Canada West averaging 21.3 PPG and is also a terrific rebounder.

"Trinity Western wants to pound the ball inside and I know we can compete and play defense against the big sets they present. In Saturday's game especially, we're going to need be hungrier on the glass and grabbing rebounds," Francis explained.

The Bears' defensive play has carried them to a .500 record to this point in the season, but they need their offence — ranked only ahead of the winless Winnipeg Wesmen — to step up as the season winds down and the games carry more weight.

"A win against SFU can really give us some good momentum. I want the guys to come out with intensity and put their best game forward on Friday night, so as to avoid another Jekyll and Hyde situation like we had versus Saskatchewan at the end of November," Francis remarked.

The Bears will hit the hardwood Friday night against Simon Fraser and Saturday night versus Trinity Western with tip-off scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. both nights.



FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

SAHR SOARS Sahr Saffa will be one of the Bears called upon for extra offence.

Pandas welcome top-ranked SFU to open '10

EMERSON CSORBA
Sports Staff

Sporting a record of 6–4 coming out of the first half of Canada West conference play, coach Scott Edwards and the Pandas basketball team are only mildly satisfied with their play thus far. Ranked number-eight in Canada, the squad has had its ups and downs this year.

The Pandas have the potential, though, to start off the year on the right foot, welcoming Simon Fraser and Trinity Western to their home court this weekend as they open 2010 within the familiar confines of the Main Gym.

Simon Fraser sits at 8–0 on the season and is ranked number-one in the nation thanks to their perfect first half record. While opening the second half of the season against the number-one team in the nation will be no easy task for the up-and-down Pandas, it does provide the opportunity as a springboard to bigger and better things moving forward.

"It's an opportunity to play against the best team in the country. We have a lot of winnable games in the second half. We can position ourselves well for playoffs," Edwards stated.

Laurelle Weigl leads the way for SFU, with an average of 14.3 points per game on the year, while Robyn Buna has also been strong for the Clan, with 13.1 PPG on the season.

The Clan come into the series sporting the conference's top-scoring offence, and also the conference-lead in scoring defence, making them the most balanced team in Canada West.

Edwards will be looking for his team to come out firing on all cylinders if they hope to stay within striking distance of SFU.

"We played in a tournament down in Saskatchewan and since then have had a decent little break. It's always difficult for teams returning to conference play after Christmas break. We're a young team, so it's important that we get back into practice and execute. I think we're pretty excited to play," Edwards said.

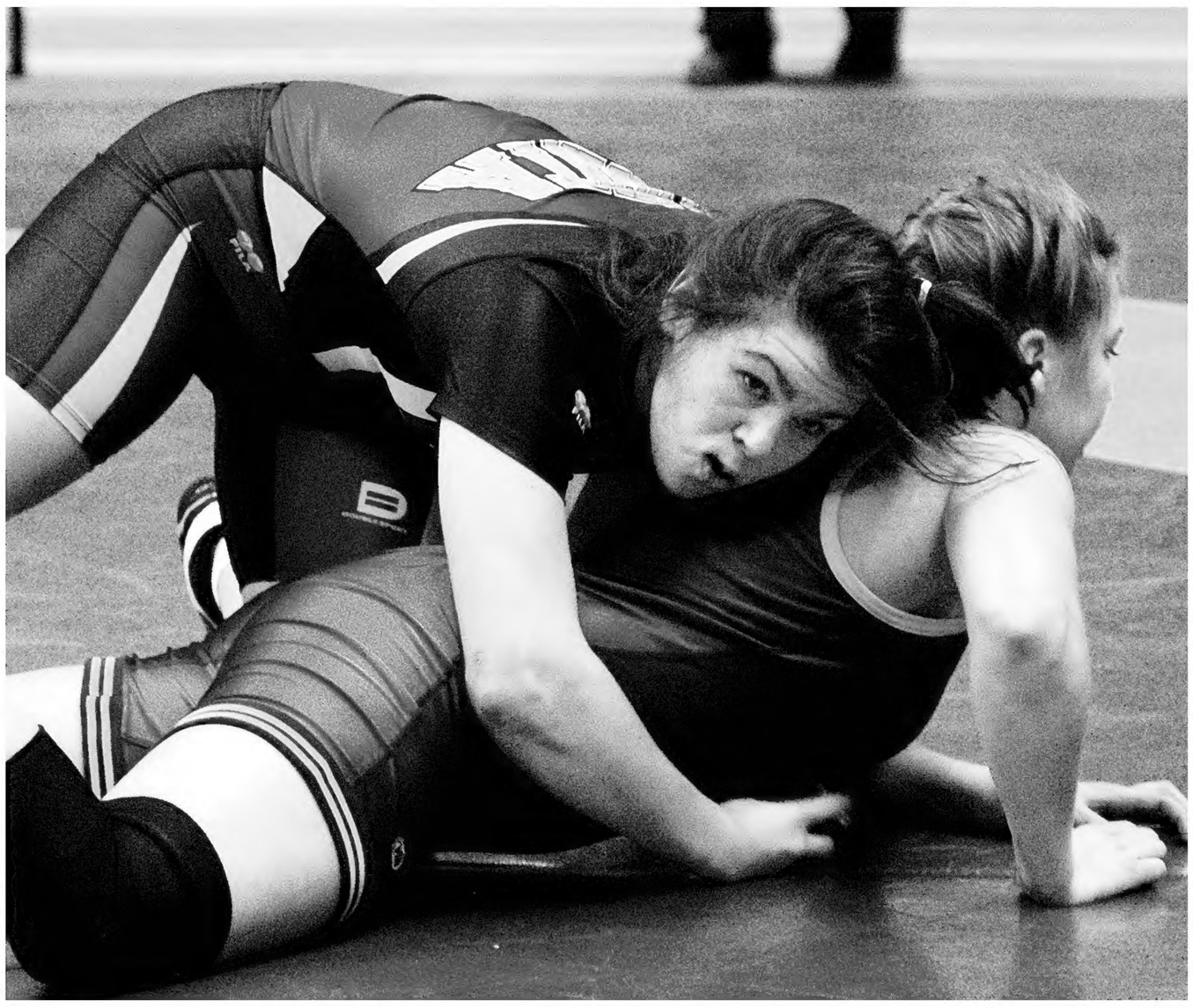
In game two of the weekend against TWU, the Pandas will need to stop lethal scorer Lauren Doubroff, who has netted 16.6 PPG on the year for the 2–6 Spartans, who have struggled thus far this season and sit second last in the Pacific division.

The second half of the season tips off this Friday against top-ranked SFU at 6 p.m. in the Main Gym, with the second game of the doubleheader going against TWU going at the same time Saturday night.



FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

BASKETBALL BATTLE The Pandas will have little room for error against SFU.



FILE PHOTO : LAUREN STIEGLITZ

Alberta wrestlers open 2010 at home with annual invitational tournament

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

Fresh off an eight-day training camp in sunny San Diego, California, the Golden Bears and Pandas wrestlers take to the mat this weekend in the annual U of A Varsity Golden Bears Invitational.

For rookie head coach Owen Dawkins, who is no stranger to the U of A wrestling scene after suiting up with the Bears from 1999–2001, the trip to San Diego proved a valuable one, as the Bears and Pandas were able to use the time as a means to prepare for the second half of the season.

"It was mainly a chance to get away from here, and put us in another environment where we could train fairly hard to prepare for the second half of the year," Dawkins said.

With any new coach comes a period of adjustment, but for Dawkins, the first half provided him with the opportunity to get to know his team and get the team moving in the right direction, while not focusing solely on results.

"In the first half, we just work. It's not a matter of worrying per se about our competition, who does well, or who doesn't."

That pure work seemed to have payed off in the first half, with some outstanding individual results at both the CIS level and internationally. Those individual successes were highlighted by Katherine Martin's gold at the Junior Pan-American Championships in Mexico.

> **"In the first half, we just work. It's not a matter of worrying per se about our competition, who does well, or who doesn't."**
>
> **OWEN DAWKINS**
> WRESTLING HEAD COACH

Martin will just be one of the U of A wrestlers who will be looking to build on a strong first half, as they welcome wrestlers from across the country, with the likes of UNB heading to Edmonton for the annual tournament.

The event kicks off the stretch drive of the season for the Bears and Pandas' best, who now have their eyes set on getting to the highest level for the Canada West Championships come February.

"The focus now is the guys and girls that are going to give us 90 per cent of the results we need, those are the people that are getting the majority of the time and that's where the focus is," Dawkins explained.

With the Invitational serving as the lone event on the schedule at home for the Green and Gold, it will be a welcome opportunity for the team to show their stuff in the familiar surroundings of the Pavilion.

"We're going to have a good showing, our team is constantly improving everyday, so I think it's going to be nice," Dawkins re-affirmed.

"This week will turn a few heads and get people to recognize that we're here."

The tournament gets underway Friday at 5 p.m., with action returning to the mat at 11 a.m. Saturday with all the action going at the Pavilion.

ARGUING THE OMAR KHADR APPEAL

A lecture and discussion with Omar Khadr's lawyers:

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Memories of Blue Jays great Roberto Alomar were evoked around the baseball world this week as Cooperstown, baseball's Hall of Fame, shunned the second baseman for induction into baseball's most elite club (maybe spitting on an umpire isn't the best path to acclaim). As good as Alomar was, maybe it's best current Jays second baseman Aaron Hill isn't a spitting image of his '90s predecessor. If you want to join a group of future hall of famers, come up to a sports meeting every Thursday at 4 p.m. on the third floor of SUB.

sportsshorts

Compiled by Matt Pretty and Evan Daum

Bears Volleyball

The number-four ranked Volley-Bears (7-3) come out of the Christmas break with a huge opportunity to move up in the Canada West playoff race. They'll visit Langley this weekend for a pair of matches against the 6-2 Trinity Western Spartans. Although both teams are technically tied for first in the standings at four games above .500, the Bears can force TWU down the table with a weekend sweep and help solidify their place near the top of the ladder.

A key matchup will pit Alberta's conference-leading hitting percentage (.296) against the Spartans' 11.78 digs per game, also tops in Canada West. Friday night's game starts at 9 p.m., while Saturday's first serve is at 8 p.m.

A video webcast of the action can be found at www.educationcdn.com/schools/spartans.

Pandas Volleyball

The volleyball Pandas (10-2) also travel to Trinity Western this weekend. Alberta will have a score to settle with the Spartans (5-5), as TWU swept the Pandas on their home floor last season in the regular season, while also handing Alberta a loss in the Canada West semi-final at the Main Gym, denying the Pandas a trip to the national championships.

Though the Spartans have not yet found their stride this year, Alberta's attack will need to fire on all cylinders. Tiffany Proudfoot leads Canada West with 4.13 kills per game, and the Pandas as a team hit over two service aces per set as well.

The action kicks off Friday at 7 p.m., with Saturday's match at 6 p.m.

A video webcast will be available online at www.educationcdn.com/schools/spartans.

Olympic Torch coming to campus

The Olympic torch for the upcoming winter games in Vancouver is making its way to Edmonton this coming week for three days, and will be making a stop on campus.

The torch, which will have travelled 45,000 km by the time it reaches the end of its journey in Vancouver come February, will make its way through the city beginning January 13, heading to campus that day.

Festivities get underway at 4:45 p.m., with events taking place just north of the Butterdome on 87th avenue.

Notable torch runners with U of A ties include grad student and Paralympian medallist Danielle Peers, along with U of A President Indira Samarasekera.

The organizing committee is still looking for volunteers to help with the event. Those interested are asked to send their names and phone numbers to torch@su.ualberta.ca.

The *Gateway* will have a full event preview in our next issue, which hits newsstands on Tuesday, January 12.

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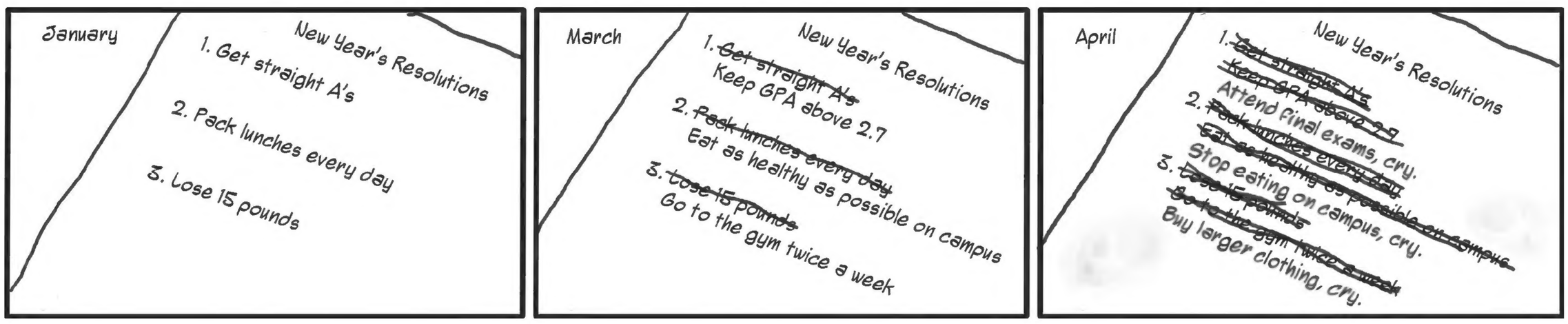
ID & EGO by Lauren Alston



POP AND ICE CREAM by Lance and Evan Mudryk



SEXY GEEK by Ross Lockwood



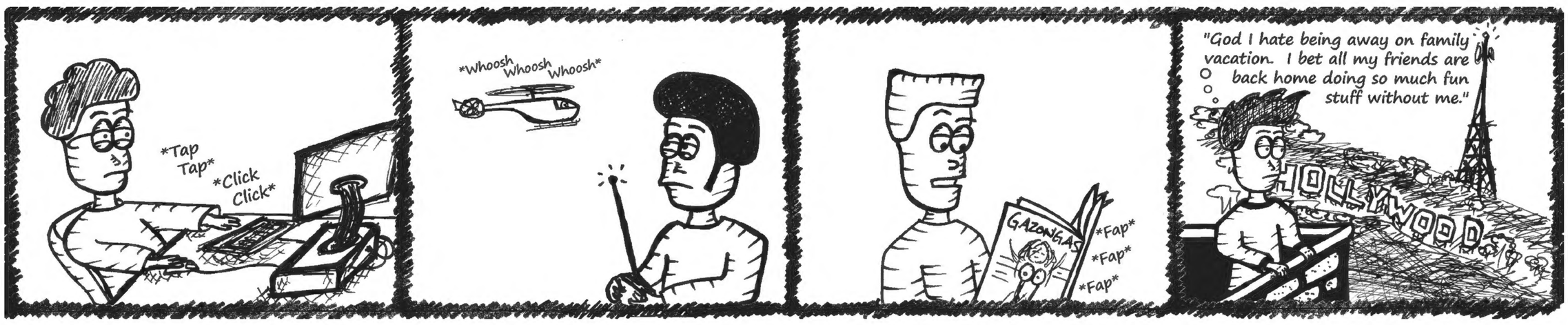
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AND FINALLY

Glad to see everyone back and hard at work, and by hard at work, I mean making SUB a crowded mess once again. So here's my advice to you this term: explore campus a bit. Go forth and conquer the farthest reaches of the U of A. If you find that perfect campus spot, give me a shout at andfinally@gateway.ualberta.ca. I need a nice, quiet space to escape to — there's certainly none left in SUB.

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SAM BROOKS

IF YOU CAN DODGE A WRENCH ... Associate VP (Student Life) Alena Manera kicks off the first game during Anti-Freeze.



INTER-DISCIPLINARY COURSE

School of Energy and the Environment

INT D 561 - Winter 2010

VALUES, ETHICS, AND SUSTAINABILITY

This course was first taught in the Fall term, 2008, and was rated highly. In this revamped course for 2010, students will, once more, gain an appreciation for how values and ethics impinge on decisions that are needed to reconnect humans to the ecosystems upon which we depend for a sustainable future. The topic is considered in relation to social, economic, and biophysical vibrancy the world over. Because the integrity of life-supporting ecosystems is essential to human health and well-being, the concept of sustainability is examined in various contexts: individually, collectively, regionally and internationally. While mechanisms are explored for integrating sustainability into the individual disciplines, students will emerge better able to engage in the broader social discourse on what changes are needed and how to achieve them for a sustainable world.

Class Times: Thursdays, 18:00–21:00 (January 7–April 8, 2010) **Location:** TBA.
Instructor: Colin L. Soskolne, School of Public Health

Pre-requisites: At least one relevant course in any of the sciences, humanities, or engineering disciplines AND written permission of the course coordinator (at colin.soskolne@ualberta.ca) which will be based on a brief explanation of why you are motivated enough to take this course. The course coordinator MAY waive the course requirement component for those students who can justify a waiver based on work or life experience.

Structure: This highly interdisciplinary course will reveal the extent to which "the system" is broken, how we have come to the point of systems collapse, and how a major overhaul of "the system" might be managed. It will frame the issues and equip new generations of graduates with the means for changing course, from a world destined to collapse under current business-as-usual approaches, to a sustainable world for both present and future generations.

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